

THE IRISH FIELD ARCHERY

Monthly



THE ONE AND ONLY
DUNBRODY
ARCHERS
1003D



Issue 08
June/July 2022
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THE RULES
OF THE
GAME

A word from the IFAF
Coaching Admin

FIELD
SPECIAL

"Archers,
je vous salue!"

12TH BODNIK
BOWHUNTER
CHALLENGE,
EISENBACH,
GERMANY.



IRISH OPEN 3D CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022





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IRISH OPEN TARGET

CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

& IRISH CLUB TEAM

CHAMPIONSHIPS

09-10 JULY

Granard Sports Complex
53.772882, -7.488648
Higginstown
Granard



Mark Higson
wolfsheadcoa@gmail.com
0860432736

Irish Open Target Championships 2022:

Date of Competition: 09/07/2022

Event Format: WA 1440 (Senior/50+/U21/U18 all bow types shoot the same round irrelevant Age i.e. Senior Barebow/Compound/Recurve all shoot the same distances 90,70,50,30)

90,70,50,30 - Senior Men & U21 Men
(Barebow/Compound/Recurve)

70,60,50,30 - Senior Women, 50+ Men, U21 Women,
U18 Men (Barebow/Compound/Recurve)

60,50,40,30 - 50+ Women, U18 Women
(Barebow/Compound/Recurve)

30,30,20,20 - All Youth (U14 in year of competition)
categories and bow types (122cm faces)

Event Categories: Compound/Recurve/Barebow

Event Fees:

Senior/Master/Non AI members €25

U21/U18/U14/Unemployed/60+ €15

Dress Code: Event will comply with Archery Ireland
dress regulations. Strictly no blue denim.

Competition Timings:

- Registration: 09:00
- Equipment Inspection: 09:00
- Practice: 09:45
- Start Shooting: 10:00
- Proposed event finish: 17:00

Irish Club Team Championships: (Archery Ireland members only)

Date of Competition: 09/07/2022

Event Format: WA 720

70m - Recurve Senior Men & Women, U21 Men &
Women (122cm face)

60m - U18 Men & Women, Masters Men & Women
(122cm face)

50m - All compound & Barebow categories
(Compound 80cm 6 zone, Barebow 122cm face)

30m - All Youth (U14 in year of competition)
categories and bow types (122cm faces)

Event Categories: Compound/Recurve/Barebow

Event Fees: Senior €10

Dress Code: Event will comply with Archery Ireland
dress regulations. Strictly no blue denim.

Competition Timings:

- Registration: 09:00
- Equipment Inspection: 09:00
- Practice: 09:45
- Start Shooting: 10:00
- Proposed event finish: 17:00

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The Irish Field Archery Monthly is an e-published periodical dedicated to archery in its broadest sense. We are an independent publication for the archery community on the island of Ireland and beyond. Due to the language of the publication, our magazine has a global reach and is shared across both hemispheres.

Our mission is to educate and promote the sport of archery by consolidating the community of archers, exchanging information and sharing experience through discussions and articles. We focus on an intercultural exchange through the promotion of local and international archery events. TIFAM is an all-inclusive magazine incorporating all affiliations, their club works and achievements on the island of Ireland and abroad.

The Irish Field Archery Monthly makes every effort to ensure that its content is accurate and represents factual statements and events, we are keen for the content to be transparent and as up-to-date as possible. The views expressed in articles reflect those of the author(s) and are not necessarily the views of the publisher and editors. Published materials, advertisements, editorials and all other content are published in good faith. TIFAM cannot guarantee and shall not be liable for any consequential damages or harm caused by third party statements.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

*Another bustling
and busy edition!*

Owen Reynolds



Hello readers, trusting and sincerely hoping this June edition of TIFAM finds you safe, well and at peace. This month Marcin has taken a slight side step, given his extremely hectic schedule, and has entrusted the Editors' Note to me in recognition of my efforts to be more mature. As we travel through June and head toward July we are in the midst of championship season for sure. All the affiliations and their clubs are doing tremendous work out there. As I type we have the forthcoming Archery Ireland Irish open 3D championships hosted by Slaney Archers followed by the legendary Dunbrody Archers 100 3d, then the NIFAA Field/Hunter Championships, the UKIFAC at Wexford Archery, the IFAF National Championships hosted by Ashgrove Archers and the SIFA National Championships being held by Limerick Field Archery Club. In the middle of all this, the regular club shoots are ongoing along with their various leagues and beginners courses.

So as I sit in the editors comfy reclining chair trying to guess where he keeps the nice biscuits and before I touch upon my own ongoing little journey, it behoves me to take the opportunity to meander a little from my normal discourse. I want to first personally thank Marcin Malek for asking me to be a part of the TIFAM crew. It's not only the writing that I have found to thoroughly enjoy but the motivations it brings. Though shooting for nigh on 6 years now, I decided only 8 months ago to change direction in a big way. For quite a while I had been

struggling with the dilemma of either packing it in or sticking with it, taking it to another level so to speak. There had also been a steady diminution of a passion and love which I once held for archery which I found disconcerting and so not only was I curious if I could rekindle that spark but rediscover what lit it in the first place, and maybe, just maybe end up fanning a flame. The daunting thing for me however was that I knew if archery was going to be a part of my life, then there wasn't going to be any half-measures, that's how I roll and if I was going to give space to this pursuit then it was going to be a very big zone indeed and I had to be mindful of that. I was also going to have to face up to some life-long reservations and fears if I had any intention whatsoever of taking this to another level. I was asked to join the TIFAM crew around the same time and I thought I'd give it a go and that perhaps could help in opening up some new avenues too as well as help me decide what it was I ultimately wanted to do.

Since then as well as attending numerous IFAF shoots, I've since signed up with Archery Ireland and SIFA and am exploring and devouring as much as they can offer. I've met many people from the different affiliations, made some very good friends and am learning so much. Writing for this magazine is proving to be very much a vehicle for this and I am therefore so grateful for that and privileged to have come to know, write with and shoot alongside the contributors of TIFAM.

So I now stray therefore into the Editors privilege of expressing a view on where I see this sport or activity going. As mentioned above I'm now shooting with three affiliations. This isn't because I'm trying cover as much mileage as possible or seeking to gain a name for myself. I have found that each have so much to offer the other when it comes to improving form, strength, field-craft and equipment knowledge, not to mention the incredible people one meets. I enjoy learning about the sometimes subtle differences in the rules and how they are applied. I have found that I'm increasingly drawing from my experience from one affiliation shoot and applying it to another, not always with great results, but certainly with improvement and more confidence.

And so what!? When a new archer completes their beginners course and they start to venture into the field, over time they are likely to develop their own preferences on bow styles and competition formats. A problem can arise however when an inclination is not properly grasped and nurtured, and those inevitable initial knocks not quickly addressed resulting the novice archer effectively walking away. There is a lot of room I believe for more archers to be active members in multiple organisations. Not only would this deepen the knowledge and appreciations of the activity but those same archers would become a source of valuable advice and encouragement for those coming up the line. When a beginner is perhaps reticent for example about attending 3D competitions that is not to say they wouldn't embrace target shooting instead and the other way round. It would be a shame for that archer to exit the stage merely because they were unaware of the options out there. Therein already lies the benefit of a fellow club member shooting several disciplines being able to advise and guide one on a path helping them to explore their options and fan that damn flame. Already with IFAF, when I started shooting with AI and SIFA I expected there to be a certain diminution in my preference for one over the other.

Now much later I have found that not to be the case at all. Instead I really like the buzz of applying my increasing experience of one to the other. I have deeper appreciation of those working in all those clubs, their dedication and passion and as such a growing affinity to them on a individual basis as I get to know them more and more. I love target archery for how it has helped me in my focus, form and discipline, I love 3Ds for the field-craft and those precious hours spent in the woods, I love both for what they have done for me on personal level and especially for the privilege of the company I'm increasingly keeping. Therefore for beginners it's important to make up your own mind on what you want to do be it a singular aspect or a diverse menu and the best way of doing that is to venture out there and give it a go and please, please, please push through those initial inevitable set-backs because they will happen, don't fool yourself. In the same vein there is an onus the more experienced archer to be available to provide help and guidance not just in the physical and technical aspects of the sport and the options out there, but in ensuring that the amateur shooter is comfortable and at ease in their new surroundings and that they are respectfully encouraged at their own pace. It's a precious yet fragile thing to be a part of someone's journey and if the contribution made is one that enables them to grow in ability and confidence it can be a magnificent and rewarding experience for both.

So this month, we've another bustling and busy edition.

As I type Laurent Ville is currently in the south-east of France shooting with Les Archers de la Roche in the Savoy region. The club is affiliated with the FFTA (French Federation of Archery) and the FFTL (French Federation of Free Shooting). There are over 80 participants taking part in a four day competition comprising 28 field targets on Thursday, 28 hunter on Friday, 28 3Ds on the Saturday finishing with a 28 UAR on the Sunday. I'm looking forward to his account of this archery showcase.

Michelle Jay has had an extremely busy month having twice visited Germany to attend the 12th Bodnik Bowhunter Challenge as hosted by the legendary Henry Bodnik in Eisenbach only to make a return trip again to take part in the 1st Shrew Bows Challenge. In between she managed to squeeze in the Scottish Bowhunter Championships at Forest Spirit Archers north of Edinburgh.

Lynn Ellingworth has covered the National Field Archery Society (NFAS) 3D Championships held on the 28th and 29th May at Thoresby Park, Newark, south east of Sheffield.

We have a new contributor in Matt Latimar of Lough Cuan Bowmen, based in Newtownards, Co. Down and we look forward to an even broader level or reporting as a result.

Finally, just when you thought you had finished with me I've a piece in here on some of my own little journeys so put on another litre of coffee.

NEWS



TIFAM Editorial Team extends its sincere condolences to Mr Eddie Ryan and the entire Ryan family on the loss of immediate relative Billy Ryan. RIP From the Editors, Reporters and Contributors of the Magazine - Eddie's friends within the archery community.

UPCOMING SHOOTS

18 - 19/06/ 2022

**(NIFAA) FIELD/HUNTER CHAMPIONSHIPS
2022 (2-DAY)**

**(AI) LEINSTER ARCHERS
ALL IRELAND LEAGUE LEG 4/5
(2-DAY)**

(IFAFA) 19/06 ASHGROVE ARCHERS

(SIFA) 19/06 LOUGHCREW ARCHERS

**EBHC 2022 - FRANCE
24 JUNE - 2 JULY 2022
CONFOLENS, FRANCE**

25-26/06/22

**(AI) IADT OUTDOOR STUDENT IV
SATURDAY, 25 JUNE
LOCATION:
IRISH SPORTS HQ**

**(AI) 26/06 ARCHERS ALL IRELAND LEAGUE
LEG 6**

(IFAF) 26/06 CRAIGAVON ARCHERY CLUB

02-03/07/22

**(AI) 02/07 MILLENNIUM ARCHERS
CHARITY SHOOT**

**(NIFAA) DAC IFAA FIELD/HUNTER ROUND
(2-DAY)**

**(IFAF) 03/07 GALTEE ARCHERY
(FIRST SHOOT EVER)**

09-10/07/22

**IFAA (IFAF) UKIFAC 2022 - IRELAND
(2-DAY)**

**(AI) 09/07 IRISH OPEN OUTDOOR
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

(AI) 10/07 IRISH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

We welcome a new
club to the IFAF!



has started
admissions for
beginners' classes!

Anyone who would like to become an IFAF coach is welcome to
fill in the form on the IFAF website to start the process.

IFAF intend to run at least one additional Instructor Level
1course this year.

Priority will be given to clubs that currently have no coaches.

All available places will be allocated
on a first come first served basis.

<https://fieldarchery.ie/.../instructor-application-form/>

Make sure you meet all the criteria outlined in the protocol.

<https://fieldarchery.ie/volunteers/instructors/>

If you require further information, please contact
coaching@ifaf.ie

"ARCHERS, JE VOUS SALUE!"



L to R: Clara, Stéphanie and Marie-Hélène

Has it ever occurred to you, on Sundays, once the competition is over, with your arrows back in the tube, the bow already unstrung and pulled out in the trunk of your car, to already think about the next one?

In another part of the country? Since I discovered archery and more particularly competitions, this happens to me every time. So, imagine when, in last January, I saw, on a very well-known social network, an announcement for an IFAA competition, over 4 days, with a different one every day: Field, Hunter, Standard 3D and UAR, and moreover in a country of my native language, I didn't hesitate even if

I've never shot the first two! So here I go for Savoie, in Challes-les-eaux for my first Field, first Hunter and especially first competition in France! Four days in a row, right in the middle of May, will you tell me? Yes, because in France (and in other European countries) Ascension Thursday is a public holiday and some people take advantage of it by taking the Friday off and have a long 4-days weekend.

Laurent Vuille

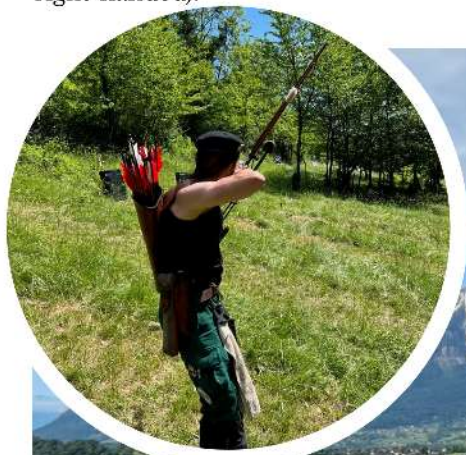
The arrival at the Archers de la Roche archery club is not for the faint-hearted! Indeed, after leaving your car in the village, you have to climb up for 10 minutes on foot, up until the registration desk to retrieve your scorecard, then and go to the bar where Stéphanie, Clara and

Marie-Hélène greet you with the greatest of smiles by handing you a very hot coffee. With advanced registration in place, once we arrive we already know not only the people with whom we will shoot during the day but also the target number on which we start. Very practical indeed! During the registration, we had the choice between shooting the 28 targets non-stop or having lunch after 14; I chose the second option.

Some people preferred the first one because during international competitions we shoot the 28 targets in a row, so it makes a kind of training, one month away from the EBHC. The courses layout are very technical, many targets do not have a backstop which means that if we miss, there is a good chance that your arrow will break. And another thing that is rarely seen in Ireland: given the number of archers on the course

(nearly a hundred), two people shoot at the same time, side by side (or back to back with left-handed and right-handed).

Day 2: Hunter Round aka black targets with a white dot in the center; very practical when the target is in the shade! Basically, we're on the same lines as the day



On the first day of competition we start with a Field Round, face targets with black circles on white backgrounds. The competition promises to be tough and the weather is already summery in this region of the world: 25° C forecasts during the day! As we are in France, following a long tradition of archery: on the first peg, before firing his/her first arrow, the archer announces: "Archers, je vous salue !" (Archers, I salute you!) And the rest of the team replies "Salut à toi !" (Salute to you!). The first fourteen targets are in the shade, in the woods. A good part of the other fourteen they are in a field, in full sun; and the slope of the terrain does not help much more: in fact when you shoot across a slope, you have to "compensate" the shot upstream otherwise the arrow is not in the axis; this is very obvious on long distances like the 80 yd shoot. A Field Round is 28 targets with 4 arrows per target, so I kid you not by saying that you are tired at the end of the day. Once the last targets are fired, the gear is back in the bag, a very cold beer is required! Then shower. Then a good meal. And a good night's sleep because we'll do it again the next day!

before except the faces and the shooting pegs have changed. The distances are also a little more reasonable: min. 11 yd, max. 70 yd. In Hunter Round, there is what in the jargon we call box of points: we shoot 35 cm target faces at a distance between 14 and 20 yd, and there are three like that on a course of 14 targets (therefore six for 28 targets), this is where we can make the score go up even by pulling LB or HB. There is also a fan shot: the four archers are lined up in front of a target. Once the first arrows are fired, we all shift one peg to the right, until we all fired our four arrows. As with the Field Round, four arrows are fired per target, making it two days in a row when 112 arrow! Same as the day before: dinner, shower, sleep and beer (maybe not in that order).



3rd day: Back to the World of 3D targets! And this time it is a Standard 3D, with the same difficulties on the ground as the previous two days. Another point of the IFAA Book of rules I did not know: in 3D Standard, we have maximum distances for the four target groups, but there is no minimum distances. So shooting a group 1 located at 30 yards but with an elevation of 10 m (30 ft) is not so easy; just like a group 4 located at 3 m in front of ye! But it takes more for me to fall into the trap! Today, I beat my own score! And with shooting only two arrows instead of four, we finish the competition a little less late, which is not bad, so we can enjoy the drink longer (and the beer in particular!). Another beautiful day is coming to an end and the weather will still be nice for the last day of the competition (and yes, already!).

4th and last day: We are in known territory: Animal Round, Unmarked distances. And this time my three companions of the day all come from Switzerland! The course, with already three competitions in the legs, we begin to know it: its difficulties, its traps: the old ones that we know about and the new ones that we try at all costs not to fall in but we put too much effort to avoid them we fall in anyway! As the competition ends early enough, it allows us to enjoy the award ceremony. I take the opportunity, after finishing my beer of course, to ask a few questions to the "Conductor" of these four days of IFAA competitions, I name: Sylvain Renard.



TIFAM: *Can you introduce yourself?*

Sylvain Renard: *My name is Sylvain Renard. Self-entrepreneur at Savoie Archerie Services. I offer seminars, archery courses to train for one day, a weekend or a week. I have a Certificate of Sports Educator, I am a Referee-Umpire in FFTA/WA, Equipment and bow Inspector in FFTH/IFAA. Archery is my passion, it's my life: I live for archery! I'm lucky enough to live from it. I promote archery every day. In my head it's archery all the time. When the contest is over, I'm already projected on the next one.*

TIFAM: *We notice a good number of people who made the trip. How many archers in total?*

SR: *We had a total of 278 archers over the four days with a record of 97 participants on Saturday for the 3D Standard and 92 for the UAR. So more people for the 3D than Field and Hunter which are longer and more complicated disciplines to set up.*



TIFAM: *Can you explain a bit more, please?*

SR: *In Field and Hunter we have no choice in terms of distances. If it's 71 yards, it's not 70 or 72. If there is a bramble, it must be "blown up", if there is a rock it must be removed; with 3D we have more freedom. And when I see a FU missing his first arrow, I tell myself that the trap worked; a trap in which an LB would probably not fall.*

TIFAM: *We feel that it takes a hell of an organisation to offer four official IFAA competitions over four days in a row?*

SR: *Yes, it takes a good organisation but above all a good team for the re-pegging in the evening, the change of shooting bosses for certain targets, change of shooting axes for the 3D. I thank the people of the club who make the course three times: once in the early morning, before the arrival of the archers, to set up the targets; a second time as competitors; and a third time in the evening to remove all the equipment!*

TIFAM: *Tell us a little about the club now!*

SR: *The club was founded in 2016. The leaders, coaches and archers were all in other clubs (FFTA)* and decided to regroup and found the Archers de la Roche club under the banner of FFTL/IFAA. There are very few IFAA clubs in the region. In addition, we are lucky to be next to Chambéry, which is a large agglomeration, on private land. Hence our great friendships with the farmers who make their fields available and who allow us to go with the jeep on certain targets. A big thank you to them too!*

**(FFTA: Fédération Française de Tir à l'Arc affiliated to World Archery; FFTL: Fédération Française de Tir Libre affiliated to IFAA)*

TIFAM: *Coming from FFTA/WA, what made the club choose to turn to FFTL/IFFA?*

SR: *Friendliness, Which there seems to be an endless supply of at IFAA! IFAA also does a lot to encourage children to shoot archery. Cubs have it easy, because all they have to do is touch the target - this approach makes them happier! In general, I think the IFAA offers a lot for families, as it seems to me that their approach is specifically geared towards family sport.*



FFTL archery in France meets three criteria: honour, courtesy and friendship. There is no conflict between Compounders and Tradies, we squabble, yes, but there is no conflict.

TIFAM: *Will there be another competition next year?*

SR: *In March 2023, the club will organise the French Indoor Championship, then at the end of August, the Parcours France at the Kerellis ski resort with 4 courses of 14 targets: Field, Hunter, 3D Standard and UAR. So will we have a contest again in May? You should see, but when you see people happy, it certainly motivates volunteers!*

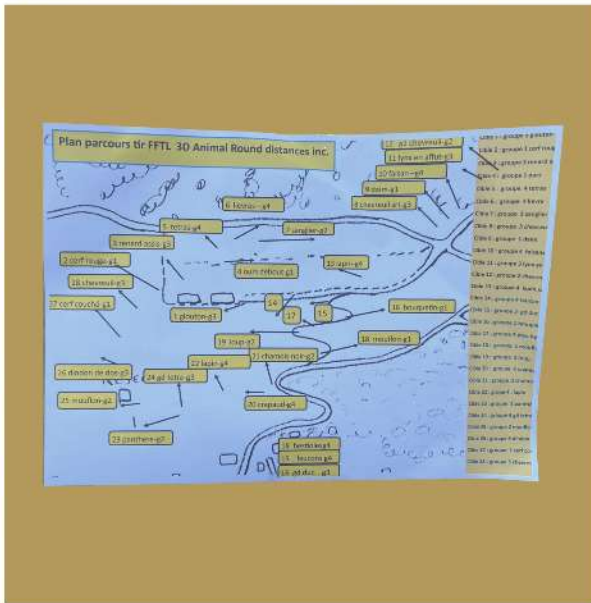
And that concludes my interview with Sylvain. It also concludes fantastic four-days of competition. And once again under a summer sun (more than 25°C today!).

Review after these four days of competition:

- Lost Arrows: 2
- Broken Arrows: 4
- Reunion with friends after more than 2 years of Covid
- New friends
- The head full of souvenirs

Archers, I salute you!





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Óbidos, Portugal 22 - 25 August 2022



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REGISTER!

**12-14
August
2022**

**International Championships
of Poland in Traditional
Archery hosted by PSŁT on the
grounds of the Golub Castle in
Golub-Dobrzyń.**



**Polskie Stowarzyszenie
Łucznictwa Tradycyjnego**

Michelle
Jay

12TH BODNIK BOWHUNTER CHALLENGE



EISENBACH, GERMANY.

An innocuous message asking if I'd like to participate in the bowhunter challenge in Switzerland/Germany was the beginning of a series of events which led to one of the most amazing experiences I've ever been part of. I'd booked my place in the first UK bowhunter challenge before covid had been discovered, and had been waiting ever since for the chance to experience this unique and iconic format. Whilst Senlac, the club that will be facilitating Henry's first foray into the UK tournament schedule had managed to run a "kill style" tournament as a rehearsal, I had been unable to attend due to the covid regulations still in place in Ireland, so it seemed like a good idea to get some insight into the challenges I would be facing prior to the event.

The Bodnik Bowhunter Challenge is unlike anything else I've ever taken part in. It is a tournament for traditional archers, no compounds, no sights, nothing extending beyond 12" from the bow. There are only three divisions:

1. Wooden bows, (no glass) with wooden arrows, shot off the hand, with mediterranean loose
2. Traditional, no arrow rests, sights or stabilisers. Wooden arrows, mediterranean loose
3. Traditional open, may have an arrow rest or stabilizer up to 12". No buttons, plungers or anything which influence arrow flex. Arrows can be any material.

The philosophy behind this particular tournament is simple. It is an attempt to simulate hunting with out killing, to test the skills required to hunt with a bow and some arrows. In order to do this the target distance rarely extends beyond 30Y or 28M as most hunters would not consider anything exceeding this distance to be an ethical shot as there is too much chance of wounding, rather than killing.

The main difference between the bowhunter challenge and most other competitions is the scoring. If you hit the animal anywhere other than the clearly defined kill, you receive minus points. A miss is a zero, which is normal, but it is surprisingly easy to wipe out a high score if you lose focus. The first day of competition is a two arrow round. Both arrows are shot from the same peg, but 360° rules apply. As long as any part of your body is touching the peg, you can shoot. Both arrows score the same. A kill is 10 points, a wound is -2 and a miss is zero. The highest placed 5 competitors from each category are then placed in special groups, all containing the top people. They shoot together on the second day.

The second day is a one arrow round and the scoring changes to 20 points for a kill, -5 for a wound and zero if you miss. Things can change very quickly, and it's easy to wipe out your score with a few (in this case unlucky) wounds. All of the pegs are moved during the night.

The second day was completely different for me. My first group was people I knew, and we had fun laughing and being silly between shots. The first day was definitely the most fun. We were laughing so much and I remember feeling guilty and bad for Timo (Döscher) because all of our stupidity might cost him a place in the final. He didn't seem worried at all, and with good reason, because of course he qualified. What was more of a shock was that I did too.

I was sort of a bit proud until I realised that I wouldn't get to shoot with my group again. I would have to shoot with strangers who may not speak any English at all. If I chose to stay with my group I would forfeit the chance to qualify for the finals and race. Thanks to the wise council of those around me, literally "put your big girl pants on", I decided to leave the safety of my lovely, fun group and join the serious competitors. Luckily, these new group members were lovely and helpful. Sabine and Helmut both speak excellent English and are great fun. I'd met Helmut before, so suddenly it all seemed much easier and I was so glad I had decided to push myself. After all, why go and not try as hard as you can? It was a very different sort of atmosphere in this group, it was fun too, but of a more businesslike ilk. Shooting with new people is always strange, it usually feels a little awkward at first, but of ten ends up being very rewarding. We were joined by Henry Bodnik and Laura as we approached the plank leading to the tree stump overlooking the rat target. This was my least favourite of the whole course, partly because it utilised all the most worrying elements, including balance and severe down wards shooting. I mean, no pressure, Henry Bodnik is watching you shoot and here I am, worrying about falling on my head, never mind missing it. Did I mention that he was taking pictures too? Of course I messed it up, but managed to not fall to my doom, which is small balm to my poor, tattered pride.

I enjoyed the simplicity of the one arrow round more than the previous days two arrow round.



There 's something really genuinely satisfying about a one arrow kill, there's nothing like it. I was very happy to be part of such a group of excellent archers, at least after I settled down and realised that it was all OK, and they weren't assessing me with scorn and derision. I think I had been fearful that I would annoy the "good" archers, but actually they were lovely. I had worried that I would feel out of place and not good enough to be there. I think shooting with new people who are perhaps a little better than you can have a positive effect, making you try harder, focus better and think. I felt better about my performance and score on the Saturday. I was happy that I more or less kept up with the others.

This performance was a double edged sword, yes, I had had a great day, I had shot decently and was feeling proud, but this had ensured that I had finished 3rd in my category and would now be required to race in the finals. The top three competitors from each category have their names put into a hat and they are drawn in pairs to race and shoot against each other. All names are equal, you can be drawn against anyone; man vs. woman, wooden vs. traditional open. I was so nervous that my whole body was shaking. When my name was called it was a relief, I just wanted to get on with it. I ran as hard as I could and it was ok. I was leading as I grabbed my bow and arrows. Unfortunately I totally panicked, lost my focus and lost to my competition. Hopefully I will do better, should I ever get the opportunity to try again. Afterwards, Timo Döscher and I ran against



each other for the craic, but it was an absolute whitewash on the part of the "Timonator" and he slaughtered me. We have a rematch planned, so I'm hoping I can get a more respectable beating this time.

The bow hunter challenge concludes with the prize giving and raffle. I've never felt so proud to be part of anything. Being included in the Bronze winning UK team was an unexpected honour too. If you ever find yourself at one of these tournaments, don't rush off!! The raffle is like nothing you've ever seen before. No dodgy bottles of supermarket plonk here, there are bows and arrows and all manner of covetable archery accessories. Every registered archer has their name in the draw, if you are called, you choose from the veritable treasure trove of displayed objects. Of course, as this is a bow hunter challenge, there's a twist. Hidden from view and reserved until all the other prizes are claimed, are three top items. So if your name is not called during the first frantic grabbing at fabulous items, perhaps you would rather hope not to hear your name? Would you give up your chance to claim one of these hinted at but undisclosed treasures? Or would a packet of feathers satisfy you?

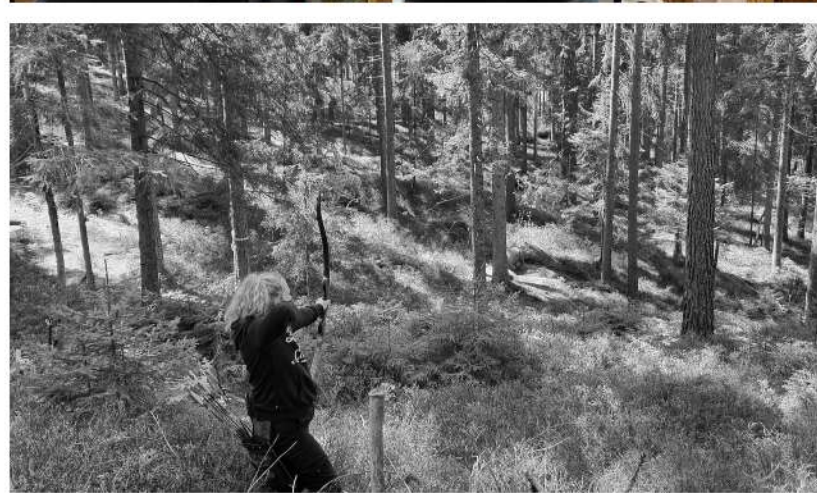
I was lucky enough to be called and I chose a beautiful, thick woollen bow bag with plaid lining. I watched as the offerings on the table dwindled, and finally, there were none left. The top three prizes were then revealed. A small 3D, a medium 3D and a custom chief Mohawk bow. The top prize is amazing. You cannot buy one of these bows, this is the only way to acquire one. All of the variations of riser and limbs are available. Whoever wins is guided through the selection of the different elements by Henry, and he builds the bow with the winner, for the winner, an experience which looks to be as special as the bow itself.

Henry asked me to draw the names for these prizes. I struggled with the pronunciation of my first choices name



(it was a bit too close to A Very Bad Word) and afterwards decided not to attempt to upset or amuse anyone else. The delight and sheer joy shown by the lady who won the custom chief Mohawk was moving to witness, I was very happy that it mattered so much to her. It was an amazing experience to be even a tiny part of, it's something that really touched me and I will never forget.

Reflecting upon the whole experience later made me realise that this tournament is more than a mere archery competition, it's more about sharing the passion for traditional archery, and gathering together seems more important than the desire to win. There's something primal, particularly during the races that occur in the finals. The buzz of hitting the kill is sweeter when you know a wound doesn't count, the panic and speed of the race, followed by the pounding heart and adrenaline fuelled shake as you loose your arrow toward the balloon. It is an incredible feeling, it's possibly addictive and I certainly haven't felt anything like it, before or since. I can't wait for the next one.



Slaney Archers

IRISH OPEN 3D CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022

by Matt Latimer

“Coolbawn woods’ debut tournament was very well organised, with archers catered for, sponsorship was a great idea, a lot of good targets in a scenic woodland setting. I really enjoyed the shoot and catching up with old buddies. Well done Slaney Archers and thank you for a great tournament.” – Peter Gilmore, Lough Cuan Bowmen member

On the 4th and 5th of June, I set out south, my destination being, Enniscorthy, to risk losing arrows with Slaney Archers, at their brand-new field venue. The weekend’s competition was a big one, and best of all, a World Archery 3D competition. However, before beginning this article, I would like readers to be aware that there is a pop-culture reference included in this one, and if you’re younger than thirty-four, you may not get it – just a heads up.

In the past, prior to Covid and just after the lifting of restrictions, I’d ventured south to shoot in several 3D competitions, hosted by a few different clubs, as I’m never disappointed by the courses and challenges they present. 3D is a bigger deal in the South of Ireland with so much opportunity in terms of the different competitions to compete in. Such are the venues, I worry that not all my arrows are going to be coming back with me and as this was a brand-new venue, so once more my mind was thinking about all the devious ways one can fit a deer 3D up a tree! Or what a hedgehog 3D would look like at 30m, down a hole!

The location was a secluded one, hidden away among back roads and under a vast canopy of enormous trees. There were bird calls I didn’t recognise and from the assembly point, with shadowy windows providing a glance into the surrounding forest, it had me thinking about all the potential dark spots and targets that could go with them. I was in the company of archers I had never met before, but with the nature of archery, we were quickly chatting away and had great company for the competition. One of our group, Kenny was shooting his first 3D and as archers do, we were willing to assist him with support and guidance. These types of field rounds do create a sense of camaraderie, having the merit of placing an archer with good friends or introducing them to other people, they can go and have a great deal of craic with. There’s an atmosphere present that I don’t think you get with indoor/outdoor target shooting and if people knew how incredibly social field archery was as a sport, I believe membership numbers for Archery Ireland and Archery GB would climb greatly.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer



Photo credit, Matt Latimer

Not long into the course, I was immediately thinking about that scene in 'The Lost World: Jurassic Park,' where the Stegosauruses break out of the foliage and across the river, because our shooting environment was just as wild and beautiful. Something from the Mesozoic plodding along the river would not have looked out of place in the slightest or even have come as a surprise. Glistening rivers played a rhythm against the birds calls overhead and ferns laid out a prehistoric scene. The sun was overhead but always outlined in the distance between the endless array of trees offering us a measure of protection.

There were plenty of horned and hooved 3Ds to keep us sharp and inflict a great sense of tension should you hit a bedded target low, though standing targets can be an archer's saving grace with several leg shots from our group. Pheasants added warm autumnal colours to the forests and a couple of big cats, one clawing a fallen tree gave an underlying exotic feel. The trouble is I'm a cat person, and thus wonder if I'm at a psychological disadvantage, or just looking for an excuse because I shot the tree-cat 3D poorly.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer

Then came day two, and the archery gods decided we had done too well on day one and lashed us for the duration of the competition with rain. At first it was damp feathers and by the final target it was wet everything with each of us feeling as stiff and cold as any ice sculpture. With an English longbow and the amount of mud I had to navigate towards the end it was the closest I was getting to Azincourt. Nonetheless, day two was a great deal of fun as well. We hit the course running, with high scores from the start, and it was also a great excuse to walk through the stunning valley once more. The trick to a wet day's shooting is just to embrace it. You're going to be soaked and draped in mud from soles to kneecaps regardless of how well you navigate the environment and instead focus on warm thoughts.

The team at Slaney built, in haste I'm told, a terrific course that wove through a diverse wooded environment, taking archers from sparse forests with young trees to deep, dense valleys. Whilst the medal ceremony was cancelled and more than a few of us had to get completely changed afterwards, the welcome and camaraderie in the south did not disappoint. The constant social benefit of being in a group for these competitions was amplified by the crossover point in the course in which several groups at a time would pass by one and other, always with friendly banter and encouraging comments.

It was a rewarding weekend in terms of an archery experience and worth the journey. Well done to Slaney Archers for hosting an enjoyable and challenging shoot.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer



A JOURNEY INTO ONESELF

by Marcin Malek

There is an old Chinese curse: 'May you live in peculiar times!' But I - as you might have already realised - by the essence of my nature, choose to see and understand things rather differently. I don't seek in them any deeper meaning or hidden messages, all I wish is to behold reality in all its bloom, encompassing as many dimensions as it is possible to see. That's why I often find myself reading in one sentence until it triggers a new thought. And the thought was that it sounds somehow odd or perhaps even fake as I'm founding in it a promise rather than a curse, possibly a challenge but certainly not a bane. So, I started to dig around, only to find a partly disappointing truth: it's neither Chinese nor ancient, being recent and western. It was probably written by some clever copywriter, in a way as to sound Chinese and within the Confucian spirit. Yet it's only a facade for the cruel and world-old truth: we illuminate our cloudy reality in many ways, and one is to give it a special status through such a saying.

Therefore (by way of confidence) I shall reveal unto you that we are not different, for here we live through "interesting times", but they are such solely on the condition of being given a certain prominence by calling them "interesting".

In a way: it is a symptom of self-glorification or even a tribute that we pay to ourselves, as times are interesting not because of their nature or that they are bestowed by some higher power, but thanks to the fact we made them so by our actions.

Indeed, the recent acts of some of us only strengthen this conviction of urgency to make our time exceptional, although it is even more encouraging that this is carried out through a genuine effort and with an enormous expenditure of mental, physical and purchasing power!

I am about to tell you a story of Dunbrody Archers 100 3D shoot, attended by 130 archers from all over Ireland, with guests from England, France, Germany, Netherlands and Switzerland. That's right! It's a story! Not some another report from an archery event, I wrote in dozens by now. So I won't pen in distances, target setting, great prizes, brave winners or the food, which nota bene was delicious! Well, I may drop a line or two about the Dunbrody Gourmet Cuisine, but that's further into the story. Instead, I will narrate the people I have found between the south windswept rocks or in the shade of the Tinnacarrick woods. The ones I know for a long time and ones I have just acquainted with.



Martin Moylan

Events such as the 100 3D, apart from being unique for obvious reasons, carry a value that is greater and far more meaningful than along on a sporting level. They are perfect inductors of ideas, exchanges on a cultural and subcultural level, vessels stirring the thoughts, dreams and hopes of flesh and blood people, present here and now, to share among themselves during athletic competitions. It is an experience like no other, where the body and spirit go hand in hand, all due to a sense of togetherness, for this is another of the virtues that this type of sporting event brings about. In fact, if we take a closer look, we can easily see the intentions of a cunning mind, foreseeing long ago that man is a herd animal and in order to open up and make contact with others, he needs a bit of competition and the stress of physical exertion.

Looking at the complexity of the preparations, the level of personal involvement of the organisers and simply their sheer humanity, flowing from the heart, advocacy and appreciation for another human being they have embraced in course of these two days, one might say that he felt cared for.

I felt that way too, and so did my wife and daughter, and we are willing to bet that many of you shared it too.



Matching people into groups is not so much boring as it is a traumatic experience that organisers have to go through.

I was intrigued by the level of interaction between the participants and the subjects of their conversations, which timidly but inevitably moved from talking about whether to sport, only to slip over time into the realm of worldviews, where some strong philosophical and moral assessments were voiced. It is from such conversations that we learn and draws the most. There is nothing worse than a neutral chit-chat that yields absolutely nothing. The world is a realm of clashing ideas and perspectives, so the courage to express one's thoughts and the effort to learn the other's interpretation should be welcomed with gratitude and humility. On the first day, fortuitous circumstances forced me to leave the merry company of Hungarians: Laszlo, Zsuzsanna, Andras and Csilla prematurely but I owe them a big thanks for a great part of the day.





Zsuzsanna Jenei in top form as usual

Again, I may have been lucky enough, as my interlocutors on the following day proved themselves worthy of the great explorers of the golden age of geographical discoveries. Anyway, what could I expect after meeting David McCaffrey, Bill Cashman and Thomas Coleman. As you might have guessed, knowing his narrative knack, Dave talked a lot, right to the point and through a beautiful bookish language. For which I would like to thank him very much, for it was a very special day for me. I would also like to express my gratitude to Bill and Tomas, who in my moment of doubt, with their cheerfulness and kindness, managed to awaken the remaining energy in me and helped complete this gruelling day.



Relaxed Thomas knows exactly what he is doing



L to R, Bill Cashman and Dave McCaffrey debating the sequence of shots

Interestingly, from the accounts I have heard, this kind of conversation and sometimes disputes on the social-cognitive level became in the course of these two days a very common phenomenon, and as I believe, bringing a lot of satisfaction to those engaged. In fact, the best example of such social iteration was the late afternoon, evening and a large part of the night dividing the two days of sports struggles.

I myself have had the benefit of such discussions as Laurent Vuille and I talked about our future plans and where to find inspiration for our writing, Deidre Shannon spoke about nature and the unexpected things we encounter in the woods during our sporting endeavours, we also exchanged the word on the experiences of travelling to and from competitions and the charms of globalization: how clothing sizes are adapted to the physical conditions of people living in a given region of the globe and how interesting it can be when some of the same sizes end up in opposite hemispheres so that it suddenly turns out that S=XS or XXS and XL doesn't necessarily have to be equal to L because it's more like M and so on. The evening and a part of the night passed even better: people, like autumn birds before their flight, were sabbathing in a crowded huddle under the canopy, where a warm fire danced in a cauldron and a BBQ sizzled nearby. I spoke with Sharon Eady about good deeds, understanding the world around us and the value of community service, concluding with her husband Tony reminding us that no good deed goes unpunished.



Monsieur Vuille contemplating the beauty and simplicity of the bow

We chatted with Owen Reynolds about the children who also had their moment at Dunbrody. My daughter Maria, along with Olivia Reynolds and Ashlinn Smee sat in a tent at dusk by torchlight sharing scary stories even I couldn't bear to hear.



L to R, Olivia, Ashlinn, Maria

We sang, we talked and the bond between us grew stronger with every passing minute, because it lies in our nature, to be kind to each other. The Dunbrody Archers crew are a big part of this as without Martin, Mark, Clodagh, Fabrizio and the rest of brilliant coordinators of the event nothing similar would have happened, at least not in the same place, among the same people and certainly not in a similar spirit.



Night singing by the warmth of the fire





Each of us shot 100 arrows per day, children and adults faced the same monster, for which the first ones deserve special appreciation. Yet, forgive me for what I am about to say now and what I wrote earlier: in this instance, archery is only a pretext for working on oneself over these two days. For yes, it may be intended as fun and excitement, but each participant, in parallel to the physical one, also went through a mental, social, and often bordering on spiritual experience journey into himself and towards the fellow man. Even the name has a symbolic meaning 100 3D - in the sense of the multidimensionality and complexity of the undertaken journey. It is probably a coincidence but I, like Dave McCaffrey, see archery for much more than a sport, as it is a path through life and often an uphill struggle, fortunately, there is always Dave to remind you why you are here, Bill and Thomas will keep your spirits up and Laszlo along with his merry party will make you laugh, Deidre reminds you that nature knows everything and understands you even when you don't understand her, Laurent will stoically listen to every word you say and then respond accordingly, in his very way, until you follow the obvious signs and figure out where the road leads, Sharon will tell you where to find the light and how to avoid the shade and Tony with his fatherly flair urges you not to jump out in front of the crowd.

And all these people have been brought to you by the Dunbrody Archers for which I am immensely grateful. But if you really want to feel like me and find something more than sheer sporting excitement (maybe friendship or perhaps life-changing encounters), don't wait, check out how to register for the next 100 3D today and do it before is to late!

And don't think I forgot about the food! The person who baked the cakes and muffins deserves the highest praise - I have never had such good ones, and believe me I know a lot about sweets:) Cakes and other confectionery were in abundance, to the dismay of some parents there were so many that children stuffed their pockets explaining that it was necessary for making the route. As a matter of fact, I saw myself, not only the children... Apart from the products generously supporting the so-called sugar industry, there were also burgers, Hot Dogs and all kinds of drinks. I can only imagine how much energy and dedication it took to keep guard for two days at the heated BBQ from 8 am to 8 pm. The girl who stood there for these two days is my heroine and unquestionably alongside Nick Kavanagh (who bravely fed us at the last championships), they are both at the top of my own hall of fame!





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5€ under 18
per day

20€ Adult
10€ under 18
weekend rate



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DAY 1

28 x UAR

3 arrow

DAY 2

28 x UAR

2 arrow

**July 16-17
2022**



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SCAN ME FOR DIRECTIONS

Location:

X91 EC80
WADDINGSTOWN,
CO. KILKENNY

The 16th will be UAR 3
arrow x 28 3Ds. Hot food
available to purchase on
the day and soft drinks and
water available. Saturday
night will come to life with
plenty of musicians and
crack, BBQ available that
for campers.

You can come Friday evening 15th to set camping in the field, there will be toilets and a marquee

queue for everyone to gather and sing and BBQ your food or get the chipper or Chinese to deliver.

**Sunday 17th UAR 2 arrow
x28 3Ds. Hot food
available and drinks.
Raffle, teas and Coffee and
finally awards
presentation. We may
come up with other ideas
for Saturday night's
entertainment. Also local
B&Bs available for
weekend**

For more details

CONTACT IVAN

0862680194

DIANE

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DANIEL

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AGLISH

IN THE COMPANY OF CROWS

by Matt Latimer

"I had a great time at the Bluebell, the weather was kind to us, and it was great to see so many of our new club members from recent beginners' courses outdoors, shooting field for the first time and enjoying the woods. I can't wait for the Buttercup next month!" – Kathryn Morton, Ballyvally Archers member

On the 21st and 22nd of May I attended the Bluebell Shoot held by Ballyvally Archers Banbridge. A clever and creative aspect of the club is how they name their field rounds after the flowers that come into bloom around the same time, with snowdrops, daffodils and buttercups having competitions named after them.

Anyone in the north who is a seasoned or long-time field archer will be familiar with shooting the Loughbrickland venue on Lady Whyte's estate and how it has evolved and changed to keep things challenging, whether it's field or 3D shooting. The course ranges between Johnston's Fort and the Coolnacran ring fort, remnants of ancient times,

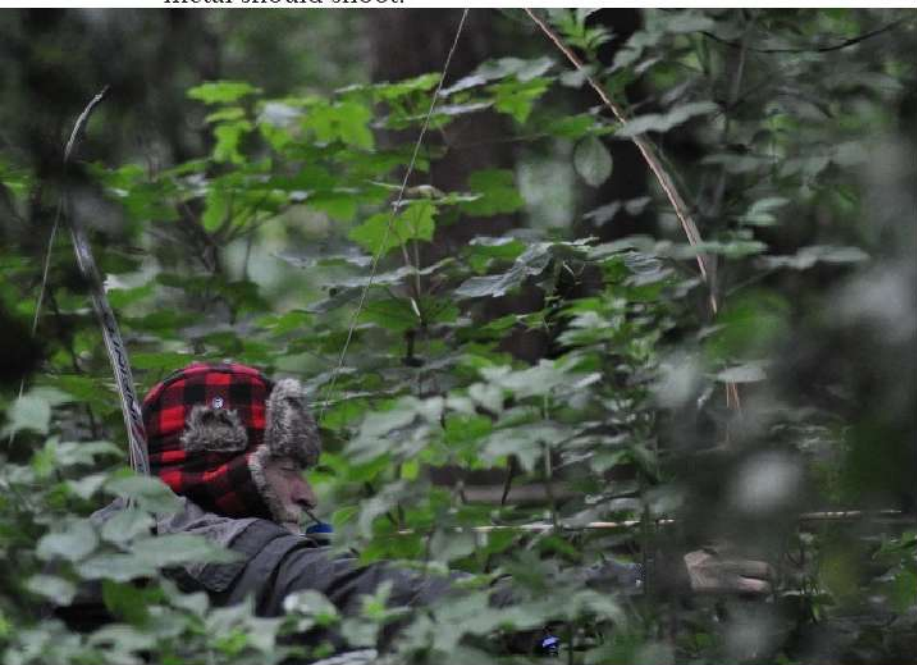


Photo credit, Matt Latimer

with the standing wall's evidence of an American 'occupation' during WWII – a haze of history hovers over the venue that leads into seemingly untouched forests, pillars of emerald ivy with gaps revealing stretches of sun lit fields, all the while bushes are never less than shin height.

This weekend, the course designers had reshaped as much as possible, reversing the course and presenting numerous new shots – one of which I started on, on day one: a long eighty-face at the end of a narrow path of trees, deceptively elevated and hidden in a shady spot.

The format of unmarked followed by marked is something I have come to prefer, having shot so many mixed rounds as a result of adapting to the Covid climate for so long. Whilst mixed has the advantage of keeping archers from wavering by throwing a 15m bunny or 25m multiple at them, a marked round can be a serious test of the archer's endurance, both physically and mentally and something any field archer looking to test their metal should shoot.



I can recall without much effort, my first marked round, shooting trad and not being able to reach anything beyond thirty-five meters. Marked rounds are necessary, in that they will build a mental resilience and give archers, especially beginner archers, plenty to overcome and provide a sense of accomplishment. From a physical standpoint, marked rounds test an archers' form and if anything is lacking, they will quickly find out.



A prominent feature of the Loughbrickland course is the wild, raucous greeting everyone gets from the torrent of rooks up in the trees. They are my favourite feature of the course: they are magnificent birds with their scythe like beaks and they moult so many feathers that can be used for making fletches. During one shoot, I retrieved forty-eight feathers, collecting them from around the whole course. It is even said that crows have very good memories, so no doubt they can recall both times that I had misses on five-meter bunnies. Furthermore, as the course essentially encircles several small fields, between targets the archers can admire the beauty of a mother horse and foal, and at least two donkeys enjoying the warmer weather. There was enough of a serene atmosphere to take in all throughout the day.

Day one, the unmarked round, presented many new shots, taking advantage of the dark spots found within the forests and with bunnies and multiples set mostly towards their maximum distances, my focus and concentration was hardly given any respite – it was great. Whilst in my start to traditional archery, Loughbrickland was always a venue I could set a personal best, however now, it's place to push my shooting skills.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer

Once more I was teamed up with Marcus and the current Chairperson of Ballyvalley archers, Kevin, both traditional shooters like myself. Everyone takes a risk in losing arrows on field rounds, we purists may find our arrows, just not in one piece.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer

Marcus shot a terrific unmarked round with his flatbow and his sharp, quick form and hawk-like focus, seldom missing which resulted in a good number of golds. It is always a pleasure to shoot alongside someone so focused yet laid back and who leans into archery so naturally, giving me something more to aspire to. Of course, I'm sure we could all use an improvement in our form in some way, but to stand so relaxed before a target is a trait I really, wish I could develop sooner rather than later.

Now, I don't know what it was I did to offend the tournament officer, but on day two I found myself starting on a 25m multiple – a lovely shot no less, across a swamp that was highlighted by the sun through the trees. This brought up an internal debate that I have been pondering for years and still have no answer to: is it better to get the difficult targets such as the 25m multiples and 15m bunnies and 50m targets at the start and get them over with, or shoot them later when you are more likely to be warmed up and hopefully know what you are doing? Either way, we had a run of long distance and harder targets in our first half, including both 50m shots and both 15m bunnies. This was a test of one's endurance, and skill, though the low scores made for easier maths where scoring.

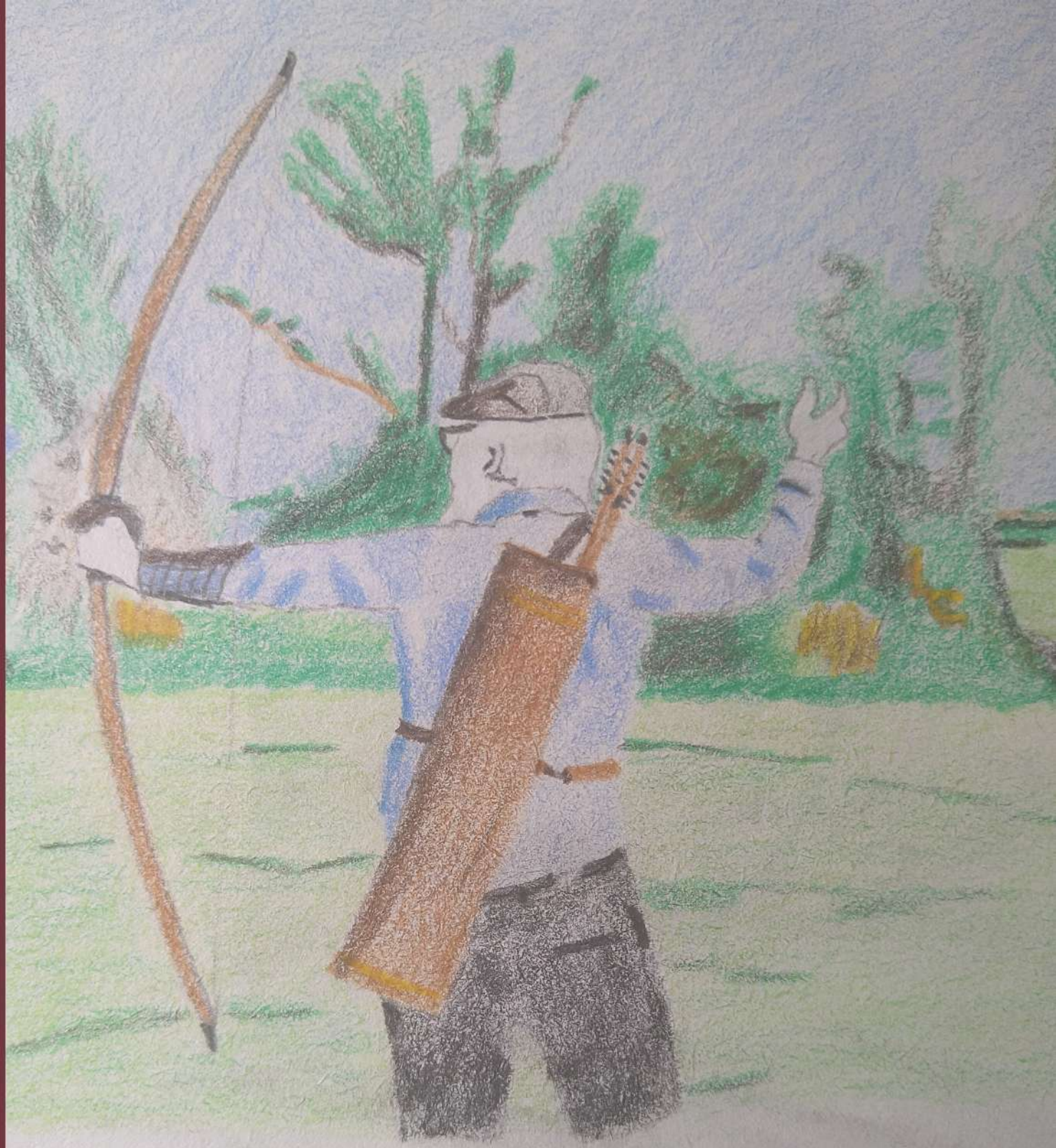
Making the going easier, was an admirable archer and friend, Tom Scott who got me into shooting two-fletch arrows and uses a longbow he crafted himself over twenty years ago. Tom is great company and an inspiring shooter as he powers his way through target panic and sets a high bar for field archers with his persevering attitude.

Loughbrickland is a classic setting in field archery terms and with the continued hard work and inventiveness by Ballyvalley, field archers will always be guaranteed a venue to push themselves and get better, whilst experiencing the outdoor benefits of field rounds.



Photo credit, Matt Latimer





Longbow Panache is of Thomas Spence of Lough Cuan Bowmen, a very talented longbow archer who looses arrows with a flourish and has a follow-through that seems to be exclusive to him.

Longbow Panache

1/4/2022

MJA Wain



Basic info for the pictures:

All my drawings are interpretations of photographs I have taken and whilst I struggle to draw expressions, archery photos are great because you don't often see the archer's face.

The Jungles of Loughbrickland (first cropped drawing), is Frank Mulligan taking aim at a practice boss, shooting a flatbow, the photo taken at the Bluebell Shoot last month.

Fine Lines is of Sophie Benton from Lough Cuan Bowmen, taken a few years ago. I drew this particular image because it shows a unique detail of barebow archery, in that Sophie is looking for a shooting mark on her string serving.

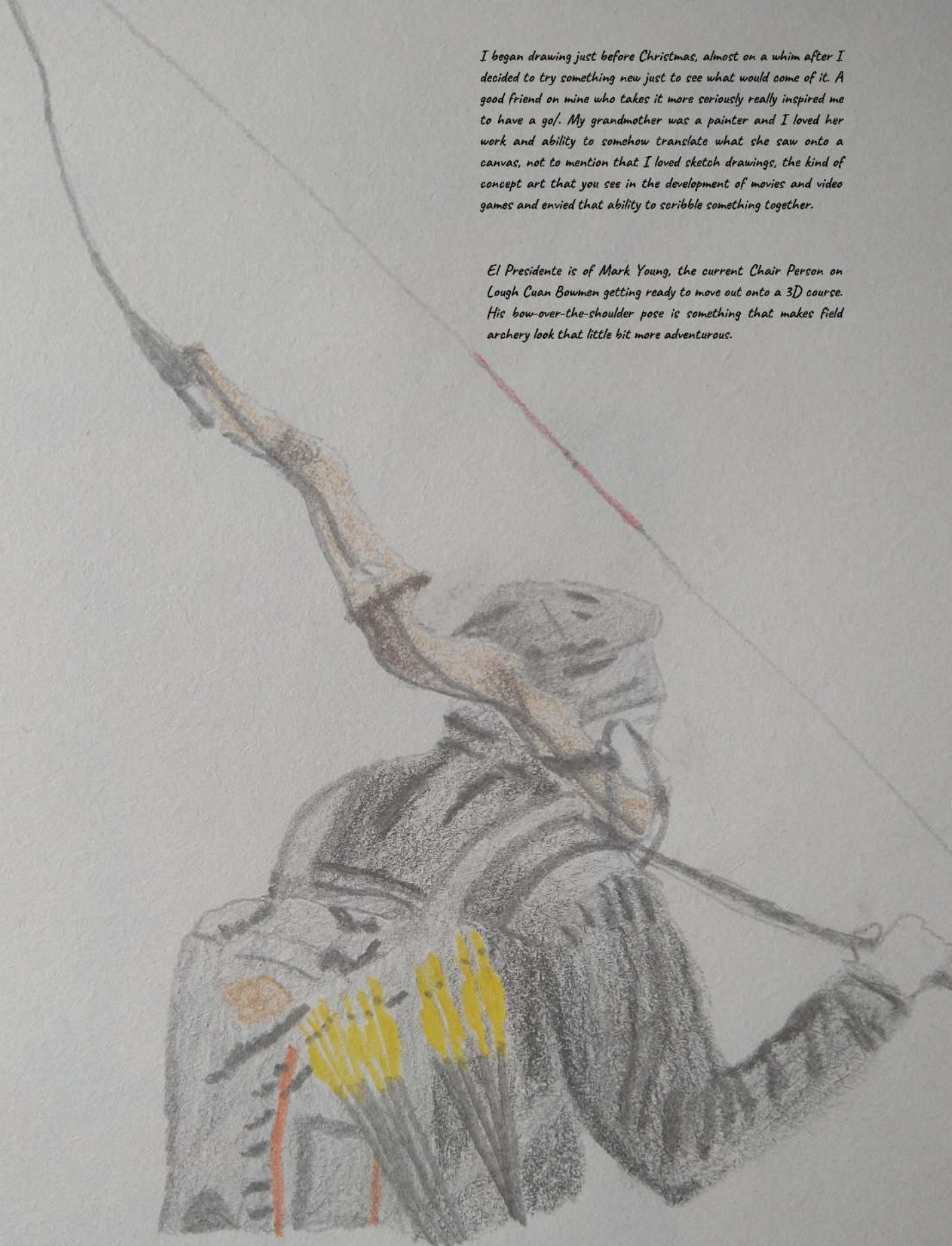
Fine Lines

18/04/2022

Art Unit

I began drawing just before Christmas, almost on a whim after I decided to try something new just to see what would come of it. A good friend on mine who takes it more seriously really inspired me to have a go/. My grandmother was a painter and I loved her work and ability to somehow translate what she saw onto a canvas, not to mention that I loved sketch drawings, the kind of concept art that you see in the development of movies and video games and envied that ability to scribble something together.

El Presidente is of Mark Young, the current Chair Person on Lough Cuan Bowmen getting ready to move out onto a 3D course. His bow-over-the-shoulder pose is something that makes field archery look that little bit more adventurous.



El Presidente

XI/V/MMXXII

1/11/22



Primary Colours is of a young archer who's name I didn't get, but her azure hair made for a striking image in the dense forest and contrasted well with her darker clothing.

Primary Colours

xxx/v/mmxxii

Art by
Issue 8

STRINGFELLOW DIARY

By
Owen Reynolds

The June bank holiday weekend witnessed the return of the Archery Ireland Irish Open 3D Championships 2022 this time to Coolbawn Woods, Enniscorthy, County Wexford hosted by Slaney Archers. With 52 archers taking part over two days, give or take for each this was a magnificent return to form for the club with the first competition in their new location. An enormous amount of work had gone into the preparation of the course and it was clear from the onset that every aspect, nuance and perspective of this location was utilized to its fullest in the distribution of the targets. This ultimately delivered an extremely challenging competition with the extensive use of hills, dips, side-slopes, the meandering brooks and range of shadows not permitting any dispensation to any of the bow categories. Dare I say it even compound bow shooters and their equipment were pushed to the limit and there was absolutely no room whatsoever for complacency as throughout both day they struggled to get a bead on the 11 spot. We arrived at 09:30am and with pre-registration having been the pre-requisite our name and target location cards were already printed and laminated and ready to go when we arrived. Sharon O'Connor did incredible work throughout the weekend ensuring firstly a steady throughput of participants to the obligatory equipment check station, distributing score cards, collecting and logging the results and still managing to compete. That's barebow shooters for you, doggedly tenacious to the end!



Getting ready

Also present were judges Shannon Russell-Cowan and her mum Ashley Russell-Cowan.

Shannon of Ballyvalley Archers is a National and international World Archery Judge. Ashley is a judge with World Archery Great Britain. Just beyond the registration desks two lines formed each side of the lane as archers queued up to have their equipment checked by both judges. Everything was scrutinized from binoculars, to tabs, to arrows. Moving beyond was of course the coffee and cake. As people gathered in front of the practice lanes one could discern the familiar faces. There was a big contingent from Wicklow Archers. From just down the road Wexford Archery were well represented too. A good few of the Lough Cuan Bowmen made the long journey too.

So, on hearing the call we gathered near the practice lanes. Alan O'Connor Club President of Slaney Archers welcomed everyone to the first championships and first competition to be held at this venue. Garret Byrne Director of Shooting,

who set out the course then explained the layout of the targets, the quirks of a few and our obligations for all. As usual health and safety was emphasised, and the first aiders identified. Finally, Shannon and Ashley introduced themselves as the judges went through their roles on monitoring proceedings throughout the shoot.



L-R Alan O'Connor Slaney Archers Club President, Garrett Byrne Director of Shooting, Shannon Russell-Cowan Archery Ireland Judge, Ashley Russell-Cowan Archery Great Britain Judge

So, we were led out and I was starting on target fourteen. I had the pleasure of shooting with Michael Kaikov (Compound) of Wicklow Archers, Darren O'Brien (Compound) of Slaney Archers, Mark Young (Traditional) of Lough Cuan Bowmen, whom I'd met previously at the Wicklow Field championships some weeks previously. The whistle sounded and off we started. So, the field of play is relatively straightforward. Typically, there are red and blue pegs, red being for compound and sighted shooters and the blue for everyone else. For youths and also for beginners there is the yellow peg positioned a little closer still, but not necessarily always to the advantage. You have two maximum distances at 45m for the red peg and 30m for the blue and a minimum of 5m for everyone. Unlike IFAA there isn't a numerical distribution of 3D target groups nor an accompanying minimum and maximum distance for each group. Though the maximum distance is 30m for barebow shooters, and while the skilled course setter will ensure a fair distribution of the target groups that's pretty much where relying on the rules for an edge comes to an end. After that you very much have to resort to your field-craft skills. This is exactly where you're tested because even though it's a maximum 30m, again for barebow, as opposed to the IFAA 55m (60 yards) every single target must be assessed individually. There's no "we shot so many group 1s, so there's no more to expect" or "I can use the junior and cub pegs as a reference". This means you're constantly assessing the environment,

and that alone, which is actually a very mentally tiring undertaking. I think the course setter is therefore permitted something of quite an indulgence when setting out.

So back to the day. Of course, there will be always the playing with inclines and shadows and trees on every 3d shoot to try and make for an enjoyable

and challenging day. To be fair to all the affiliations, their commitment to this aspect of archery is commendable. However, not all courses have those two or three shots that are deliciously, devilishly, uniquely special. As one moved into the spruce and as the day wore on the shadows started with their tricks. Though the photo may not capture it, by the time we came across the owl at the end of an enclosed tree lined tunnel it was as if it was straight from that opening scene in Raiders of the Lost Ark. The enveloping darkness removing all points of reference save for the one spot of illumination which happened to be upon, and no

where else, the owl, proved to be borderline surreal. This was an extremely challenging shot. Many compound shooters, I believe, had to end up making a judgement call being unable to focus with their scope. What particularly captured our attention before we approached and long after we moved away was the loud thud of, and cheers for, yet another arrow missing it and finding home in the backstop behind it.



Matt Latimar takes a steady aim

Then there was another tunnel. These Slaney Archers guys seem to have a thing for tunnels. Now this was spectacle to behold. So, simply put, the object of this exercise was to shoot through a tunnel which formed part of a culvert arrangement over the stream just before the competition start point. The standing deer down and across stream was positioned close to the maximum distance so it was very much the domain of the compound or high bow poundage shooters as they crouched down and took aim. This certainly was a visual treat and a challenge, with such trajectories not posing a problem in the open suddenly being intimidated by the presence of unforgiving concrete. Mere mortals took up their positions afterwards at the blue peg on the other side of the bridge.

imagine a solitary fisherman miles away seeing this archery debris drift past and ponder upon his reckonings of some sort of vicious melee having taken place just upstream, and then hurriedly gathering his tacklebox and departing before something more sinister floated by.



Alan O'Connor of Slaney Archers and Dan Benton of Wexford Archery. Only for the brave and set close to if not at maximum distance

Of course, and this is why I used words 'deliciously' and 'devilishly', for when things had settled, and archers had finished with this target a steady stream of traditional and longbow wannabees gathered upstream of the tunnel and proceeded to take their chances. Afterwards a small group of especially tenacious archers gathered here to try their chances refusing to succumb to something as insignificant as plain physics. Arrows clattered and split as they bounced from inside the concrete tunnels to the water. Some made it to just in front of the deer only to drop, hit the rocks and spiral upwards into the dense unknown. Such a collection a broken shafts and feathers floating down the stream was on one level kind of a sorrowful sight but balanced with that and behind each and every one was the motivation behind, a leap of faith, a hope, a belief that I can pull this off despite the hurdle. Were they not all gathered up afterwards thanks to one of the dedicated core working groups in charge of litter and maintenance, I could only otherwise



The other end of the tunnel

The following day the format was very much the same as on the Saturday. Some had left, others had arrived, most were doing the entire weekend. Unlike some other competitions our group remained the same with the same starting point. We didn't need to go through the equipment check again as nothing had changed. Thus, proceedings commenced and proceeded very much as the day before except for one small change later that morning. It rained, and I don't mean drizzle or intermittent showers. Throughout a consistent downpour we trod from target to the next. Now I'm thinking for barebow and traditional shooters this is very much a test of ones' patience and comfort. However, for those working with sights, levels, scopes and peeps this was a gamechanger for many with moisture build-up and fogging. Nonetheless it's yet another aspect to archery, having to brave the elements and persevere to end. All told 52 archers took part which was a fantastic turnout.



No targets or shooters in this one but I think it captures something nonetheless

So, getting back to the course and a little bit history on Slaney Archers. Firstly, this is a beautiful setting embracing and defining all that is typical of the sunny south east. Every aspect of the terrain, shadows, brooks and woods is used with tremendous imagination and I do recommend a visit.

Slaney Archers were established in 2020. An ambitious endeavour where Alan and Sharon O'Connor and a core group of members, still actively dedicated to this day, held their first meeting in their shed at home formulating an idealistic vision of what they hoped for but uncertain of what to expect with those first few steps. The first point of discussion for any budding archery club is always going to be location. Sourcing both indoor and outdoor venues for this type of activity is extremely difficult especially when one is trying to provide a platform for all aspects of archery. Two areas of interest were investigated and in 2020 Slaney Archers were set up and they established their 3D course at Verona Woods in Enniscorthy. This initially worked, a lovely setting ideal for gaining a foothold in the field archery scene and surely enough numbers started to rise. Already by 2022 an impressive catalogue of events had been successfully brought to fruition with 3 3D competitions, 4 National Field Rounds and club

meets on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. This course has been brought to a standard to allow all of these competitions to be run to a World Record Status level allowing competitors to submit their results to potentially represent Ireland on the international archery stage. An indoor facility is also set up in Davitstown Village where they rent out a hall. However shortly afterwards the onset of the Covid pandemic and subsequent insurance concerns given the mature nature of the woodland hit the club very hard and Slaney Archers found themselves practically back at square one having to vacate Verona Woods in early 2022. Now for other clubs this kind of kick-back can be a death knell, members dissipating, founders licking their wounds and moving on. Not Alan, Sharon and the rest of the Slaney Archers hardcore.

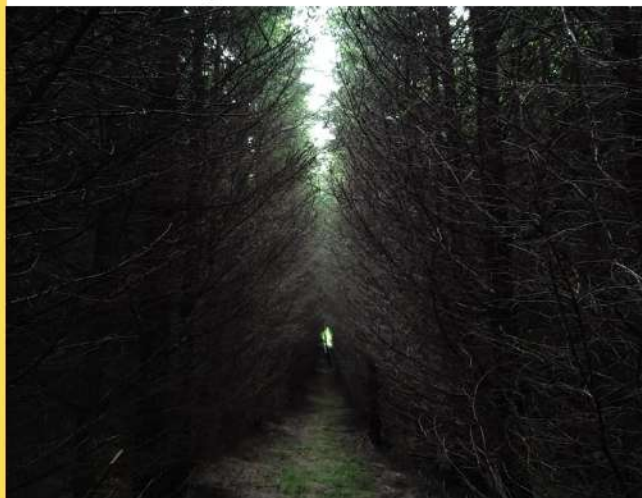


Check out those feathers. So not only is trad rad, it can be mad and bad.

On the relaxation of restrictions, they immediately set about researching a new outdoor venue for the club.

Following their intense investigation of venues in 2020, an old paintball facility was re-visited at the nearby Coillte Coolbawn woods just west of Enniscorthy. Not one to miss an opportunity, and I'll expand on that in a moment, the Slaney Archers committee jumped at the opportunity. This is a club to watch as I really believe for every shoot you'll be attending here in the foreseeable future there'll be some big changes each time. So how does Slaney Archers function? What's their ethos and how do they have this uncanny knack of bouncing back?

Returning to their origins whereupon they had an initial membership of 20, now 50 and growing rapidly, they made the decision to run things a little differently. It was something of a gamble in that one was placing an enormous amount of faith in the commitment and dedication of the club membership. However as could be witnessed at the 3D championships, it seems to be working. When one joins Slaney Archers, you are most definitely not just a number. Even on the application form it's made clear that it's your club too, it's voluntary, it needs support and ongoing maintenance and as such everyone has a role to play no matter how small. The club is run almost like a co-operative. There are about 5 working groups and every member is assigned a working group depending on their skills, time and resources. An overall co-ordinator manages the groups with there being one for fundraising, one for course rangers who take care of things like litter, toilet facilities and target face upkeep, one for equipment who look after stock inventories and back-stop repairs (that brings back memories) and two core groups who oversee coarse building, shot marshalling and P.R.



Hard to believe the sun was shining when this was taken. This is what poor archers had to deal with in Slaney....especially the compounders.

The club holds four general meeting a year on top of their AGM. All members are expected to provide some level of support and presence during practice session. During g practice sessions or when shooting in the woods, one must be accompanied by at least one other shooter.

This approach is obviously working given the club membership presence during the Championships. Even though it was in the woods it was clear a tremendous amount of work went into the tracks, footbridges, signage and route delineation. Furthermore the P.R. and fundraising working groups had clearly been doing their jobs as every single target had a peg sponsored by a business, many local, others further afield. The refreshments were also a donation and the main sponsors was J. Donohue BMW.

A full list of the sponsors is on the Slaney Archers Facebook page <https://fb.watch/dCN9SS63jY/>

Just to finish of I would also like to direct you a series of short video present by club president Alan O'Connor giving a concise introduction and description of how a World Archery 3d competition works. I recommend you check them out and I especially recommend you pay Slaney Archers a visit at their next 3D shoot on the 25th and 26th. of June

https://fb.watch/dCNf_JB0p_/

<https://fb.watch/dCNgz7gQ6A/>

<https://fb.watch/dCNhb9URUf/>

<https://fb.watch/dCNhJdWgXK/>

Finally to finish off, an additional bit of fun was introduced with a green spot on the head of a boar whereupon on hitting it the archer could enter their name on a clip-board for the chance of a prize. The 3Ds targets and the prizes for this were very kindly donated by Prima Archery, Enniscorthy, County Wexford. Prima Archery is a budding venture still in its' infancy but one to watch out for as new archers venture out there and others return to the field and need that bit of personal advice on their form and equipment suitability.

Their website is www.primaarchery.com and I expect it is going to get very busy very soon, so the very best of luck.



No campers or tourists were harmed during the making of this shoot



Slaney Archers 3D WRS Competition

25th and 26th June 2022

Dear Archers,

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Coolbawn Woods for yet another 3D competition. As always we promise to bring spectacular scenery along with the wonders that mother nature throws at us combined with a fantastic archery experience.

Toilets are available on site.

ENTRIES ARE NOT VALID UNTIL PAYMENT IS MADE VIA THE SUMUP LINK

PAYMENT - Please use this link after filling out the this entry form.

<https://slaney-archers.sumup.link/category/3d-competition>

Link will also show up in the confirmation message on submission of form.

ENTRIES CLOSE -Tuesday 21st June.

ENTRY FEES- Senior/Master 1 day - €20 & 2 day - €30 Underage- 1 day €15 & 2 day - €20

Gates will open at 9.30 on day one and day 2. STRICTLY NO ENTRY TO VENUE BEFORE THIS TIME.

SCHEDULE

Registration Day 1: 09:30

Equipment inspection day 1: 09:45

Practice Day 1: 09:45

Start shooting day 1: 11:00

Proposed event finish day 1: 17:00

Registration day 2: 09:30

Equipment inspection day 2: 09:45

Practice Day 2: 09:30

Start shooting day 2: 10:30

Proposed event finish day 2: 17:00

Competition Address:

COOLBAWN WOODS, Rathnure Lower, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

Co-ordinates - 52.486186, -6.759179

SCOTTISH BOWHUNTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Michelle Jay

14th - 15th May

Forest Spirit Archers, Kircaldy SFAA open event.

The Scottish Bowhunter Championship was held at forest spirit archers in Kircaldy over the weekend of the 14th- 15th May. It was attended by 38 archers. The base camp area of Forest spirit archers is very well laid out, with a separate enclosed range for coaching and instruction. There is also an administrative building with a covered standing area as well as picnic tables and a separate catering building. The catering proved to be very popular with bacon butties and burgers being the most popular offerings after hot drinks.

It was wonderful to see bows and equipment being checked prior to the commencement of the shoot. All bows and arrows, as well as any aids were thoroughly assessed with regard to the archer's nominated IFAA category. This seems the most sensible way of ensuring that no archer makes a mistake through ignorance or inattention. The atmosphere was relaxed, the terrain flat. To combat this, the club have built several structures which either raise the target or the shooter. Some of these structures are beautifully engineered, the "Guillotine" in particular, uses the principle of a counterweight in the same manner as a sash window, allowing effortless raising of butts for shooting raised targets, but lowering them for arrow collection and scoring. I've never been a fan of platforms in general, and to be honest I think course builders can be more inventive using terrain, obstacles and perspective in order to perplex visitors, rather than relying on scaffolding or slippery planks. Forest Spirit archers made me rethink my position on this, with their sturdy, well built structures. Safety was obviously paramount, with guard rails, anti-slip materials and special shooting slots. I don't enjoy heights, but these platforms were easily the best and safest I have encountered anywhere.



The competition comprised one marked animal round and one IFAA 2 arrow hunting round. The organisers cleverly decided to split these rounds into two 14 unit rounds each day. On both days this meant that we began with marked distance 2D faces, which were completed by lunchtime. After lunch, we moved to the 2 arrow hunting round. I liked this; it provided variety and prevented boredom. I enjoy marked distances, and it can act as a diagnostic to your shooting because the distance is known. If you aren't scoring, it can be possible to ascertain what the issue is prior to dealing with the unmarked animals. The platforms and height adjustable butts did add extra dimensions to the relatively flat, yet gently undulating landscape. The weather was beautiful, the air clear and the company congenial, especially Hamish, the Border terrier.

The afternoons shooting brought the new challenge of unmarked 3D animals. The 2 arrow hunting round scores kills, vitals and wounds. It's interesting to use different rounds, not always UAR or SBG, and I do like the distinction between "kill" and "vital" because it really celebrates accuracy. Target placement was good, the lanes were pretty clear and clearance was not an issue, even for me.

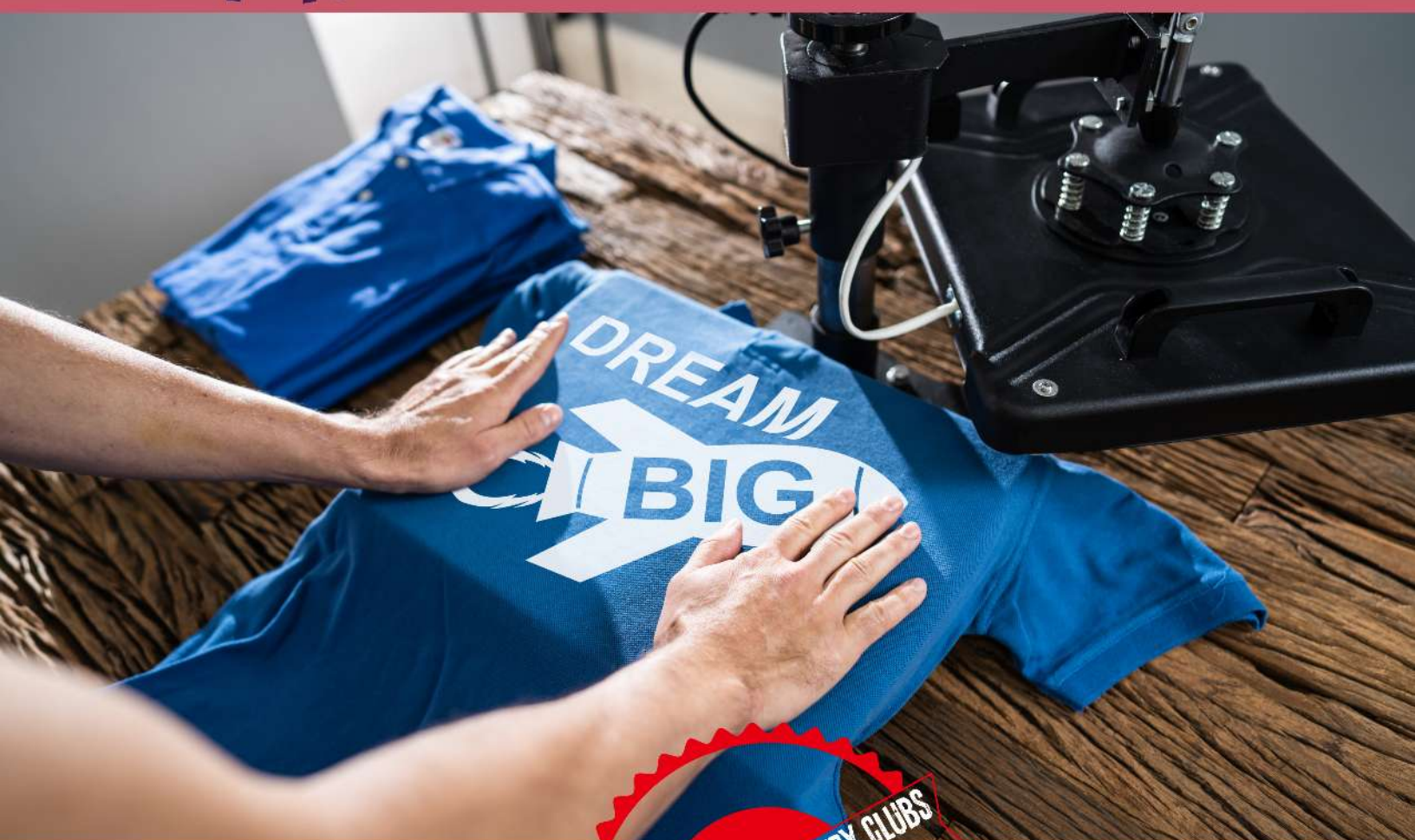
The second day followed the same format as day one, although the courses were different. I was pleased that we weren't shooting the same courses twice, at the very least; I think pegs should be moved to ensure a challenging and interesting experience. The shooting was followed by the prize giving ceremony, and presentation of medals. It was lovely to see so many happy faces on the podium. I found the other archers to be very welcoming and great fun. I had an excellent time and only got rained on a tiny bit. Thank you to the SFAA, Forest Spirit Archer s and all of the lovely people I met.





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NFAS 3D

Lynn Ellingworth

Champs 2022

This year was the first time the National Field Archery Championships (NFAS) were able to run their 3D Championships since 2019 due to Covid-19. In March, in spite of months of behind-the-scenes preparation, the situation looked dire for the 2022 3D Championships. Previously identified locations had fallen through and a call was put by the NFAS Committee for clubs, or suitable locations, to help put on the event. So serious was the possibility of the 3Ds not proceeding that the decision to reduce the number of courses from four to two was taken.

Fortunately, the stars aligned and the 2019 venue of Thorsbury Park in Newark, and three local clubs; Pines Park Archers (Course A) and Phoenix Archers and Sons of Sherwood (Course B) came together with the NFAS Committee, so that this year's 3D Champs was able to proceed as planned on 28th and 29th May. Phew!

Travelling to the 3Ds was relatively convenient with direct flights from several airports in Ireland to East Midlands Airport, which is approximately 45 mins away. The ferry was also a viable option with a 4-hour drive from Holyhead. In and around the Newark area there is no shortage of accommodation ranging from country pubs and B&Bs to hotels and the like in Nottingham (city) and Mansfield (town).

The Champs started with Registration and Bow Check between 8 – 9am



After an archer pick-up their scorecards, which are colour-coordinated by Style and are placed in cloth pouches for easy retrieval by Admin volunteers, they are free to go to use practice butts (untitled or browse the stalls, enjoy the spectacle (untitled, catch-up and chat (or grab some refreshments.



Once registration closed, a general briefing session was held and any target changes announced (untitled With the formalities completed, archers were then lead-out to their respective courses. The Range Captain gave another briefing, providing information specific to the course, before groups are escorted to their starting target



Because of the smaller numbers this year, the ranges were mixed with all bow styles. Usually, there are four ranges with two set for 'Traditional' styles and the other two for 'Technical' styles. As a result, groups could have a mix of styles that included Crossbow, Longbow, Hunting Tackle and Compound. Additionally, a novelty for those archers who NFAS is not their primary organisation, the group can also include a four-legged friend.



As part of my international travels, I take Lucky lollies with me.



They are a great ice-breaker and a bit of a pick-me-up when there's a slump in form. There's many a shooting partner who's been offered a lolly and got back on form as a result of the sugar boost, and a bit of Irish Luck, of course! In fact, they are so good that they can even be used as accessories to the bow due their matching colours, and universal-fit lollypop stick!



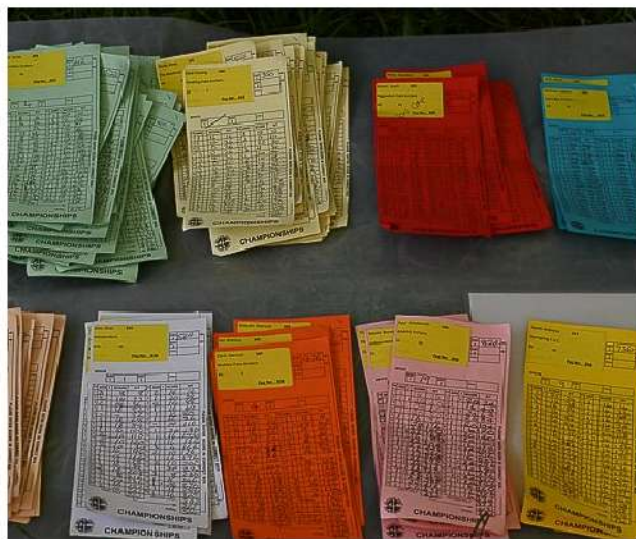
The second day of the Champs has Registration and Bow Check open an hour earlier (7 – 8am). The extra hour head-start allows time for Admin to compile the results whilst volunteers clear the ranges and put targets back into storage (untitled and archers check the lost arrows bucket for any strays). Funds from this years' auction of used 3D targets and spare paper faces were donated to charity, raising over £400 for Prostate Cancer UK.



The ranges – on both days – were well laid and made the most of the areas allocated to them. It is no small feat to scope out, set, run, and clear two 40-target temporary ranges.



My utmost admiration and thanks goes out to all those involved from the helpers in the admin tent who work behind the scenes collating the scorecards, checking-in groups, verifying scorecards, and sorting out the awards.



The IFAF contingent of James Moloney, John Shiel, I did alright. We finally got back to NFAS after a 2-year travel/shoot hiatus because of Covid-19. We met up with old friends and made some new ones. In the Final Results we held our own with me placing in Ladies Bare Bow as 2/13 (Silver), James in Gents Bare Bow as 13/42 and John in Gents Longbow as 20/26.



For me, the NFAS 3D Champs marks the start of my field archery travel season. I look forward to going to it so much that I get a bit tingly when registration opens and find it hard to sleep the night before I travel. Shooting at the Champs is a breath of fresh air. The Field Officer invariably selects venues with beautiful, mature woodland which are a delight walk around never mind shoot in. As for the people, you get to shoot with archers from the length and breadth of the UK and, occasionally, some international ones who've discovered NFAS for themselves. The 3Ds are two days of pure bliss.

To summarise, this years' 3D Championships were a huge success. Yes, numbers were half those of 'normal' years, but the weather held fine both days and 400 people got out to shoot and see folks they might only meet at Champs events and went home happy knowing the 3Ds Champs are back!

About NFAS:

If you would like to know more about joining NFAS to shoot at its events please contact me at international@ifaf.ie. I am a Designated Sign Off in NFAS and I assist with international applications.

NFAS has a plethora of club shoots on their calendar:

<https://www.nfas.net/clubs/shootdates.asp>

Several of them are 2-day events, making them ideal for a weekend away. There is also an annual 8-Day annual shoot called the South West Challenge. This shoot is hosted by 4 clubs based in the counties of Devon, Cornwall and Somerset. The Society also hold two 2-Day Championship events each annually. The first is the 3D Champs, held on the Spring Bank Holiday at the end of May, and the second is the National Champs which is always held on the 3rd weekend in September.



Photo Credits:

Official 2022 3D Champs
Photos were taken by Alex
Tyler and Andrew Knott
and are available at:
<https://www.nfas.net>

IFAF group photo taken
by James Moloney

All other photos taken by
Lynn Ellingworth

James Moloney



THE RULES OF THE GAME

Nick Anton

IFAF Coaching Administrator and Chair of Laois Archery

Of late there has been much discussion on this subject and with the outdoor season hotting up and EHBC, UKIFAC the IFAF champs and WFAC just around the corner it's a good time to walk through some of the issues people have been highlighting.

The past while has been challenging in all aspects of life and there is an argument that field etiquette has suffered, likely due to all the solo shooting and rolling starts. People have been shooting almost all the time in their own friend groups and as a result some bad habits have been learned or allowed. Now that everything has come back to some sort of normal and groups are more mixed we need to remind ourselves of some of the finer points of the collective game.

KNOW YOUR CATEGORY

There seems to be an assumption that shoot organizers, club officials or coaches are responsible for the category an archer is registered to shoot in. This is incorrect. Each individual archer has to know their own category and comply with the rules as laid down by the governing body. The shoot organizers will inspect the bow and may advise that a specific bow is not in compliance, for example a hybrid longbow with a recurve on the limb or a timber riser with "longbow" bolt on limbs, (neither of which would fit into the IFAA/IFAF Longbow category) but the responsibility of knowing this is up to the archer. You don't see a driver turn up to a Rally in a Formula one car expecting to compete, it's the same thing you can't enter Historic with a modern bow.



Remember it's not just the bow that needs to comply. In each specific category there are varying rules on the arrows which can be used, material, spine matching, length matching, point matching, then there's release and anchor etc....

Because there are so many categories and specific requirements in style it can be a challenge to get it right but that is where the coaches and club officials can offer assistance. Once you know your style you are set but remember the responsibility to get things right is with the archer.

As with all rules in sports not knowing is not an excuse, to play the game you must know the rules.

MARKING YOUR ARROWS

Almost all of the rounds require your arrows are numbered and within IFAF your arrows must have your name or at least your initials on them. The benefits are obvious, if you lose an arrow with your name is on it there's more chance you'll get it back.

In terms of numbering this is a requirement in various rounds, UAR-MAR-Field-Hunter-Expert Field indeed it is impossible to shoot these rounds within the rules if the arrows are not numbered. In some of the rounds the sequence of shot determines the score and without numbered arrows there is no way to confirm the sequence was correct. For example in the Hunter round at the the 32 yard fan archer "A" will shoot arrows 1&2 into the bottom left then 3&4 in the bottom right, while archer "B" will shoot 1&2 into bottom right then 3&4 into bottom left. If the arrows are not numbered there is no way to confirm this for scoring or should a dispute arise. This can be said of the MAR and UAR, if arrows are not marked then who can say if it was a 1st or 3rd hit.



This leads in nicely to a practice which has to end, that is when an archer strides ahead and pulls their arrows prior to the scorers and captain confirming and recording the score. There is no question at all that this is cheating, there can be no excuse or justification for doing this in any competition and should an archer do this their score on that target should be void. It states clearly in the rules that no arrow in the target or butt may be touched before scoring, and scoring must be done in accordance with the rules where both scores agree the score then record it. So while collecting the stray arrows, ahead of or bend the target, during scoring is acceptable no arrows in the butt, hit or miss, should be touched.

ROTATION AND SEQUENCE

Again this is probably due to the lockdown but I have witnessed at a few shoots that people have allowed cubs and juniors to shoot ahead of adults. The rules on this are plain, adults are to shoot first and cubs are to shoot last. This is simply not negotiable, there are good reasons why this should be adhered to. Not least of which is safety. The sequence of shooting must always be farthest from the target to closest. Sometimes it can seem like the nice thing to do to allow the cubs shoot first but all that is achieved is that it teaches them that the rules can be bent or broken. Shoot rotation can often fall asunder, with the best will

in the world we sometimes forget who shot first and are too polite allowing someone to shoot ahead of us but when it comes to competition, especially Field and Hunter, the rotation must be stuck too in order to maintain a completely fair competition.

ROTATION AND SEQUENCE

There is no time limit as such when searching for lost arrows but the rules do state that you cannot hold up a team so the rule of thumb would be that searching can happen but as soon as another team arrives at the lane you should mark down the loss and move on. I've seen a lot of butts where there's a wee sheet of paper on the back or side where you can leave a note saying roughly where you think the arrow might be, not in the rules as such but a good idea none the less. Remember that for safety one archer should stay in front of the target while others are behind looking for arrows. This is for safety of course but also so that they can call the search when another group arrives.

To summarise I think that we all need to refresh our memories of the rules and when we see infractions taking place on the range to call them out at the time then report them to the shoot officials, there is no benefit in posting on facebook after the fact, broken rules or shoddy practise must be dealt with at the time. Information can be found on the IFAF and IFAA sites and of course the coaches in your club can always be asked for information and interpretation of the rules.

There is only one way to succeed in the sport and breaking rules is not it As Albert Einstein said "You have to learn the rules of the game, and then you have to play better than anyone else".

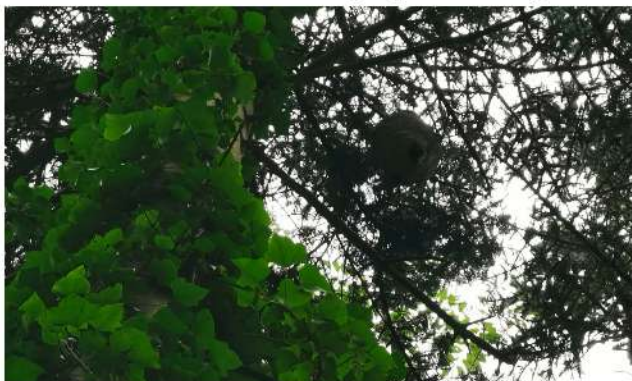
FOREST SURPRISES

Deidre Shannon

As archers know - field archery is more often than not, held in a forest. Being outdoors and with nature, seeing the seasons, the flora and fauna change over the year is one of the many reasons we enjoy archery. Whilst we are enjoying the great outdoors - there are creatures that are very busily getting on with their lives that we tend to not be aware of. Here is a story of one such creature that I've come to appreciate that bit more because of an encounter "in the field".

Making my way from one target to another at a shoot hosted by Lough Cuan Archery Club in Mount Stewart woods in County Down, I happened to come across something **VERY** curious. It was a bit bigger than a rugby ball and was as light as a feather. It was a neutral colour and had very distinctive little holes throughout the structure. "What could it be" I wondered? I looked up - and right above my head was the remaining part of some sort of nest - clinging on for dear life. It looked like it had become too heavy to defy gravity - and part of it had fallen to the ground.

I carefully collected this unusual objet d'art and carried it carefully all the way round the course to take home and do some proper investigation.



And this is what I subsequently discovered.

It is a wasp nest is that of the common wasp (*vespula vulgaris*). They often make their nests either as "hanging ball shapes" or inside crevices in trees, buildings etc. It's construction is primarily of chewed and pulped wood - which is why it was so light to carry.

There are rows upon rows of identical cells with a space (like tiers) in between - this acts as a gangway for access/egress throughout the colony.

If you look at the photos you can see these chambers consisting of the cells and the tiers/gangways. This is actually where a wasp has chewed up wood to a pulp and layered it to create these identical little hexagonal cells and tiers. Amazing huh?

It is in these cells where the queen lays an egg per cell, seals it up and in which it develops into a larvae, pupates and grow into a wasp.

ALL the wasps have had a part in building it. It really is a masterpiece of architecture.

The amazing hexagonal shapes are every bit as impressive as the hives made by honeybees.



IN THE BEGINNING

The entire process starts with a single queen who emerges from her winter snooze in Spring (having mated the previous year prior to hibernating) and gets to work gathering teeny tiny shavings of wood that she chews into a pulp and makes into the first few perfectly formed cells. In each of these cells she lays an egg, seals up the cells and continues doing this until the first wasp young emerge. As soon as they are old enough to leave the nest they go off to forage for food for the rest of the next generation of larvae.

These are now the worker wasps and they will bring back other insects and larvae of other insects for the new wasps to eat but they (the adult workers) don't eat the same thing. Instead they feed upon a sticky sweet substance that the larvae secrete. So they actually feed each other.

Larvae spin cocoons and pupate, emerging as worker wasps and the cycle continues. In addition - the workers continue where the queen left off creating cells/tiers and she now focuses solely on egg laying.

At some point the queen will cease to produce worker eggs and starts to produce males and new queens.

By this time (usually late August/September) the colony will be at it's peak with thousands of workers already developed and out and about. At some point there will no longer be any wasp larvae or simply insufficient larvae

to feed the adult wasps with the sugary secretions. And this is when they start to look elsewhere ie windfall fruit, flowers, (your sugary drinks!).

Eventually the whole colony will die apart from the new queens. They feed, mate and then hibernate until the next year when the cycle begins all over again.

WHAT IS THE POINT OF A WASP?

Wasps are great pollinators, they eat insect predators that can destroy crops of human food.

Just be aware of them when you are around their nests - move slowly past and they won't bother you.

RELIEF OF A STING

The key to avoid getting stung at this time is to **NOT** wave your arms about as they are more likely to sting in defense.

A simple cure to neutralise and hence reduce the pain of a sting is to apply cider vinegar or a paste of baking soda & water. Alternatively an antihistamine cream is very effective. Why not be prepared and just pop a tube in your rucksack, because let's face it, it's more convenient to do that than make up a baking soda paste whilst out in the woods.

The wasp stinger is smooth like a needle and will not remain in your skin. Bee stings are more complex and usually need to be removed as they will leave a barbed filament in the skin. Ouch.



UKIFAC 2022

9-10 July

THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD IN WOODVILLE HOUSE,
MOUNTELLIOTT, NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, Y34 WP93

WOODVILLE HOUSE AND PARKLAND

The house is set in the centre of a working farm and is approached by long avenues through parkland planted with specimen trees including Sequoia, cedar, pines, cypress and a recent addition the Wollemi pine. The resident flock of sheep grazes the pasture land, a scene unchanged for two hundred years.



A laurel shrubbery to the front of the house is also planted with colourful flowering cherry, Paulownia, Crinodendron, and Catalpa, and leads down to the double tennis courts which in turn leads to the water garden. Started in 1963 by Peter and Irene Roche and planted under the embankment of the old New Ross to Macmine Junction Railway, the water garden is a tranquil haven of shade and water-loving plants: ferns, hostas, Arisarum proboscideum (the fetching mouse plant), Clematis, Astilbe and trilliums, as well as Cornus controversa and others. A series of dropping pools are shaded by majestic oaks and a Metasequoia glyptostroboides (the dawn redwood).

Wexford Archery

is proudly hosting UKIFAC on behalf of the Irish Field Archery Federation (IFAF). As a club, Wexford Archery has strong ties with UKIFAC both administratively and competitively.

For over a decade, members of the Wexford Archery have attended UKIFAC tournaments and several members were part of the 2011 and 2015 organising committees.

In anticipation of UKIFAC 2022 Céad Míle Fáilte from everyone at Wexford Archery and in IFAF.





UKIFAC 2022

9-10 July

THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD IN WOODVILLE HOUSE,
MOUNTELLIOTT, NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, Y34 WP93

SCHEDULE



Friday 8th July

12 – 6 pm
Registration
and Bow-
check
Practice
range open

Saturday 9th July

8 – 9 am
Registration
and Bow-
check
Practice range
open
9:30 am
Muster,
welcome
speech and
safety briefing
9:45 am
Walk-out to
target
10:45 am
Commence
shooting

Sunday 10th July

8 – 9 am
Practice range
open
Registration
and Bow-
check (single
day entrants
only, if
applicable)
9:45 am
Muster
9:30 am
Walk-out to
target
9:45 am
Commence
shooting
5 – 6 pm
Awards
presentation

Shooting styles and Divisions

*The tournament allows for
all IFAA divisions and
shooting styles.
Participation*

*Only archers who belong to
one of the five member
associations of the UKIFAC
may compete at UKIFAC as
full entrants.*

*Members of other IFAA
associations may be
accepted into the
competition at the
discretion of the host as
'Guests'.*

*All participants must hold a
valid IFAA
classification/scorecard
with at least two signed
official scores, present their
IFAA
classification/scorecard at
the registration along with
their current national
association membership
card and be prepared to
provide proof of age for any
division other than 'Adult'.*



UKIFAC 2022

9-10 July

THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD IN WOODVILLE HOUSE,
MOUNTELLIOTT, NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD, Y34 WP93

UKIFAC RULES

The Field and Hunter rounds must be shot in accordance with ARTICLE V – OFFICIAL ROUNDS in the IFAA's Book of Rules

Championship Details:

A 28 target Hunter and a 28 target Field round shall be shot.

The UKIFAC shall accept entries from all bowstyle, age and gender groups as set out within the IFAA Book of Rules. Only those styles set out in the IFAA Book of Rules shall be recognised by the UKIFAC.

Entry to individuals who are not members of one of the five UKIFAC associations may be accepted into the competition at the discretion of the host such individuals must be treated as guest and not part of the championship. These individuals MUST, however be a member of an IFAA association and in good standing with that association – it shall be for the host to verify that an individual meets these pre-conditions. All entrants of non-UKIFAC associations shall compete as guests.

SHOOTING GROUPS

Adults [all divisions]

Groups shall consist of no less than 3 and up to 6 adult archers.

Juniors

Groups shall consist of no less than 3 and up to 6 junior archers. If there are not enough juniors to make a group of any combination of styles they must be grouped with a parent or shooting "guardian" who shall be agreed before shooting commences.

Cubs

Unless cub minders are provided cubs shall shoot with a parent or a shooting "guardian" who shall be agreed before shooting commences. Groups must consist of at least 3 adult archers plus the cub/cubs. The group will be decided on the style of the parent or guardian not the cub. Cubs may not therefore be shooting head to head. Cubs do not count as scorers in a group. Multiple cub entries from one family will be split between the parents if possible.



Testimonials



Nick Anton, Laois Archery, IFAF Coaching Admin.

The Field and Hunter rounds are arguably the most important rounds in the IFAA. Certainly for classification they are essential and if you are considering going forward for a coaching cert it goes without saying that you need to have shot them.

Personally I prefer shooting the F&H and having shot at UKIFAC in Scotland and Wales I'd highly recommend all archers to take part. With UKIFAC taking place in Wexford this year it's a fab opportunity for everyone to get an international shoot on their cards.....and who knows where that will lead



UKIFAC 2022

9-10 July

THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD IN WOODVILLE HOUSE,
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ENTRY STANDARD

All archers entering the competition must be full members of the national association on whose behalf they are entering, it shall be the responsibility of the hosting nation to confirm that the entrant is a member of their respective association and is in good standing with them. All archers must have shot a minimum of two classification shoots in the 12 months prior to the competition and MUST present proof in the form of their membership/classification card issued by their association. Archers failing to produce documentary proof of membership/classification at the registration of the event WILL BE REFUSED ENTRY to the competition and will forfeit their entry fee.

In the case of any guest shooters granted admission to the competition the same conditions shall apply.

2022 Entry Standard Dispensation.

For UKIFAC 2022, the UKIFAC Committee has agreed to waive the Classification requirement because of the pandemic. The Committee accepts that archers may not have been able to shoot regularly and as such attain the minimum 2 Classification scores on their Classification/Scorecards for the stipulated time frame.

All Entrants will be required to present their national association Membership card and their Classification-Scorecard at Registration, even if there are no scores for Field/Hunter rounds recorded on it.

COMPETITION AWARDS

In the case of any guest shooters granted admission to the competition the same conditions shall apply.

The title UK & Ireland Champion and a Champion patch shall be awarded in every division and style provided that there are more than two persons in that division. Where there is only one competitor in a style or division he/she must shoot a minimum of 'B' class scores based on the average of the two scores from both days of shooting to be declared Champion and receive the award.

All winners in Veteran, Cub and Junior bow styles shall be awarded the title UK & Ireland Champion and Champion patch irrespective of the number of persons in that division and shall not be subject to the style thresholds.

Class awards shall be awarded for the winners of 'B' and 'C' classes only.
Guest awards shall be awarded at the discretion of the host.



Testimonials



*Helen Kavanagh,
Dunbrody Archery Club,
Accomplished Archer,
former member of the
IFAF Committee*

*Participating in previous
UKIFAC offered a
fantastic opportunity to
shoot with like minded
Archers who enjoy a very
individual sport and
make life long friends*

*UKIFAC 2022 gives
experienced and less
experienced Archers the
opportunity to be part of
an prestigious
international event right
on their doorstep in the
beautiful grounds of
Woodville House*



UKIFAC 2022

9-10 July

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TEAM COMPETITION

The host shall accept team entries from the national representatives on behalf of their member associations. Any team entry so submitted must be in writing, along with the appropriate fee as decided by the host, prior to the commencement of shooting on day 1. Entries submitted late will only be accepted on the unanimous vote of the other 4 nations.

TEAM MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

Each member of the National Team shall:

- 1. Be a registered member of the IFAA member association of that country and:
 - a. Be a national of that country by birth or naturalisation, or*
 - b. Have resided in that country for a period of 90 consecutive days in the preceding twelve months**
- 2. Not have shot as a member of a National Team of another IFAA member association in the preceding twelve months.*

TEAM AWARD

The host shall make an award to the winner of the team event. Runner up awards shall be at the discretion of the host.

TEAM STRUCTURE

Each nation may enter a team of up to six archers in the following styles:

- 1 x FU*
- 1 x BU*
- 1 x FS (Recurve or Compound)*
- 1 x BB (Recurve or Compound)*
- 1 x BH (Recurve or Compound)*
- 1 x LB/HB*

Each member of the National Team shall:

It is accepted that from year to year it may not be possible for all the nations to submit a full six person team and that reducing the team size and styles entered can be a matter of negotiation between the host and the team managers to reach a format to which everyone agrees with. In the event of a shortage, it is permitted for certain styles to 'shoot up' e.g. Recurve against Compound. However, it is not permitted to 'shoot down'.

Archers in the Cub, Junior or Professional divisions will not be eligible for the team

Testimonials



*John Shiel,
Wexford Archery,
Accomplished Archer,
former member of the
IFAF Committee*

Archery is one sport that absorbs the apparent difference between best personal performances and a social atmosphere. UKIFAC is an event that shows this at its best. Our last international competition had both home and visiting archers saying "We'll be Back". This year's event will continue the growing tradition of top class shoots in Wexford. My experience of meeting strong competition and from visiting friends will ensure my own attendance. Organisation and challenging courses are always well planned, thanks to the dedicated people who give so much. Roll on, 9th/10th July!



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UKIFAC SHOOTING RECORDS

The UKIFAC is a record status shoot and as such all record scores shall be recorded and kept and shall be recognized as UKIFAC records. Up to date records will be made available at the competition for the information of the participants.

PROTEST COMMITTEE

A Protest Committee will consider and rule on all disputes and protests submitted at the tournament.

Protests must be submitted in writing, along with the appropriate fee as decided by the host, no later than one-hour after completion of that day's shooting. All particulars of the protest, including witnesses to the incident, must be contained within the written submission, only the evidence in the written submission shall be considered. If the subject of the protest is an individual then that individual must be informed that a protest has been submitted in respect of them.

The Protest Committee shall only consider protests in relation to the Rules of Shooting. All other matters will be referred to the tournament host.

The Protest Committee shall hear all evidence submitted, eye witness, verbal or written, including any defense to the protest and shall make a decision based on the evidence and in the interest of natural justice. The outcome of their deliberations shall be given in writing.

In the case where the protest is upheld by the Protest Committee they shall have the power to make such judgements as they feel would adequately resolve the protest up to and including expulsion from the competition.

Where the protest is upheld the protest, fee shall be returned to the individual making the protest, if the protest is not upheld the fee shall be forfeit and shall go to the host nation of the tournament.

No person may submit a protest on behalf of another person.

No club may submit a protest.

PROTEST COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The Protest Committee shall be made up of 5 persons, one from each of the national associations who are currently members of the UKIFAC group. These can be the national representatives or such individuals as agreed and appointed by their national association.

Testimonials



**Lynn Ellingworth,
Wexford Archery,
Accomplished Archer,
IFAF International Rep**

My first UKIFAC was in 2010, in the grounds of Fommon Castle, Wales. I was very lucky that first year to shoot with a mix of ladies representing different bow-styles (BH-C, BU and BH-R) who ranged from seasoned UKIFAC-ers to first timers like myself. From the off, I liked the challenge of shooting 4 arrows at each target. It encompasses accuracy, concentration and, at 112 arrows per Field/Hunter Round, is great value for your entry fee!! Over the years I have improved, moving from C-Class to B-Class in BH-R. My ambition is to get to - and stay in - A-Class at competition level.

I have attended every UKIFAC since 2010 and would recommend them to anyone. There is a great sense of occasion in attending the Championships. And, year on year, new friendships are made and old acquaintances are reaffirmed. Having been involved in the organisation of UKIFAC 2011 and 2020-22. I consider it a great privilege to be part of the team hosting UKIFAC on behalf of IFAF and welcoming fellow archers to our shores.



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Message from Gerald and Helen Roche, Woodville, New Ross, Co Wexford.

Wexford Archers have made Woodville their home for the last eight years and in that time it has been a pleasure to see the development of the club and its activity here.

Field archery is clearly a highly skilled and competitive sport but it is obviously also a very companionable and family friendly one for all ages and skill. We have been impressed at the numbers that come to the shoots and the distances they have travelled from all over Ireland to participate. We are proud to have been hosts to the club during this time.

As farmers and gardeners, we are very conscious of our role in caring for nature, field archery is a perfect fit, embracing the outdoors and an active lifestyle. The farm boundary to the east is a steep valley down to a stream, known as a pill, which is a tidal creek, leading to the river Barrow to the north and the woodland beside it is a mixture of old oak, ash, holly, hazel and stands of larch, Douglas fir and Norway spruce. The team at Wexford Archers have developed the course, expanding it through the woodland and exploiting the variations in terrain and ground levels to a standard such that it has qualified as a venue suitable to host this important international event.

The town of New Ross and the Barrow valley is a place of great history and beauty, we are proud to welcome UKIFAC and all the competitors here and wish them a challenging and successful tournament.

Woodville House

A gem of Wexford



Woodville House is a fine five bay, two storey over basement Georgian house dating from about 1800 situated above the river Barrow. The property was acquired by P J Roche, great grandfather of the present owner in 1876 and is now occupied by the 5th generation of Roches to live there. It is thought to have been built by the Tottenhams, the first mention of it being the home of Edward Tottenham and subsequently was lived in by a Reverend Minchen. The house has two gate lodges, one a gothic lodge opposite the river Barrow and the other a 19th century Italianate gate lodge with gates at the southern end of the property. This entrance way and avenue were built after the construction of the now disused railway.

The house, recently renovated, maintains its period charm with period interior decoration and antique furniture. Visitors to the house can view the reception rooms, the former billiard room with faithfully copied and reprinted original wallpaper and Victorian conservatory by the Messenger Company.



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Testimonials

*Eddie Ryan and Don
Bradley, Course setters for
Wexford Archery*

Setting a course in the woods at Woodville House proved to be a bit of a head scratcher. They are long, narrow and slope down to a tidal stream. The course was originally set up as a 28-target 3D round, and setting it up as a 28-lane course that could accommodate field, hunter and animal rounds took some thought. Somehow Eddie found the shooting lanes and we began clearing them, setting the super butts up and figuring what could go where. A real headache in itself!

Then it was on to the paths, steps, shot clearance and flattening the areas around the pegs so that we could get archers out to shoot it and check for safety. With a few tweaks, more head scratching and swapping some shots around we got there. As any course setter knows, it's not the end of the work as maintenance is an ongoing job, but by the time UKIFAC comes around we aim to have the course looking it's best for you all to enjoy. A relatively easy course to get around with lots of tricky shots to test your skills.

We'd like to thank our club members who helped out whenever they could and special thanks to Gerald, our landlord. He'd often be seen in the woods with his trusty chainsaw asking, which bit did we want clearing, and hey presto, it was cleared.

We look forward to seeing our friends, old and new, at Woodville House on the 9th and 10th July.

**UKIFAC 2022
KINSHIP
ICONIC
FRIENDSHIP
ACHIEVEMENT
CHALLENGE**

Wexford Archery is proudly hosting UKIFAC on behalf of the Irish Field Archery Federation (IFAF).

As a club, Wexford Archery has strong ties with UKIFAC both administratively and competitively.

For over a decade, members of the Wexford Archery have attended UKIFAC tournaments and several members were part of the 2011 and 2015 organising committees.

In anticipation of UKIFAC 2021 *Céad Mile Fáilte* from everyone at Wexford Archery and in IFAF.

USEFUL LINKS

TRAVEL

www.irishferries.com
www.stennaline.com
www.ryanair.com
www.aerlingus.com

ACCOMMODATION

www.discoverireland.ie
www.ireland.com
www.bandbireland.com
www.bedandbreakfasts.ie
www.airbnb.com
www.tripadvisor.com
www.booking.com

CAMPING

www.facebook.com/inthewildcampsite/

TOURISM

www.visitwexford.ie
www.southeastireland.com
www.lonelyplanet.com
www.tripadvisor.com

New Ross Tourist Office
The Quay, New Ross
(in the Dunbrody Famine Ship visitors' center).



Wexford Archery

Find us on Facebook
UK & Ireland Field Archery Championships

Contact us at

ukifac@ifaf.ie

00353 86 233 4151

www.fieldarchery.ie/ukifac

visitwexford.ie

WEXFORD

SO OLD. SO NEW



Wexford Archery

Proud hosts of UKIFAC 2022

UK & IRELAND

FIELD ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPS

2022

9-10 JULY 2022

Woodville House
New Ross
Co. Wexford
Ireland
Y34 WP93



Irish Field Archery Federation

a UKIFAC member organisation

UKIFAC about the event

FACILITIES

- NO CATERING
- UNLIMITED TEA / COFFEE
- W/C
- AMPLE PARKING

SALES

- TRADE STAND
- TRADITIONAL BOWS
- MERCHENDISE

RANGES

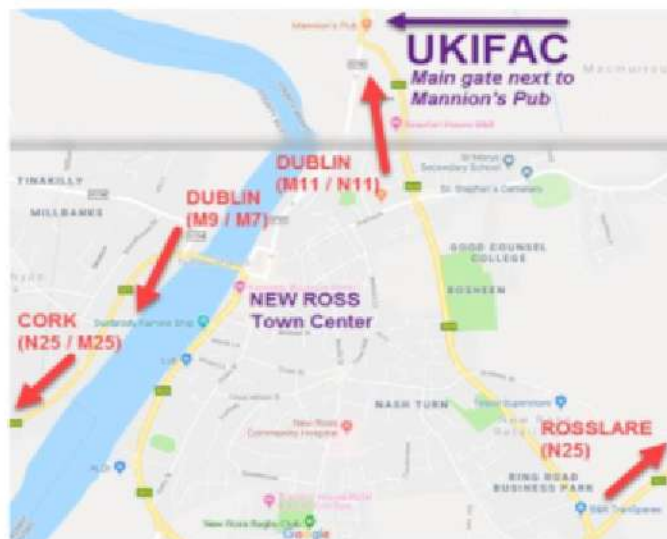
- FULLY REDESIGNED
EXISTING COURSE PLUS
A NEW UKIFAC COURSE

REGISTRATION & PRACTICE BUTTS

- FRI: 12 – 6 PM
- SAT: 8 – 9 AM
- SUN: 8 – 9 AM

BOW-CHECK

- FRI: 12 – 6 PM
- SAT: 8 – 9 AM
- SUN: 8 – 9 AM



REGISTRATION

- Registration opens **Friday 17th July 2019** and closes **Friday 11th June 2022**
- Online registration available via the UKIFAC section of the IFAF website
- All entrants will be published, only paid-up Competitors assigned a start #
- Full refunds, minus any charges incurred, paid up to **Friday 31st Dec. 2021**

FEES

- Adults (Senior, Veteran, Adult and Young Adult) entry: €30
- Junior and Cub entry: €20
- Entries (EURO) can be paid via PayPal or Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)
- Payment details are provided on the UKIFAC section of the IFAF website

RULES

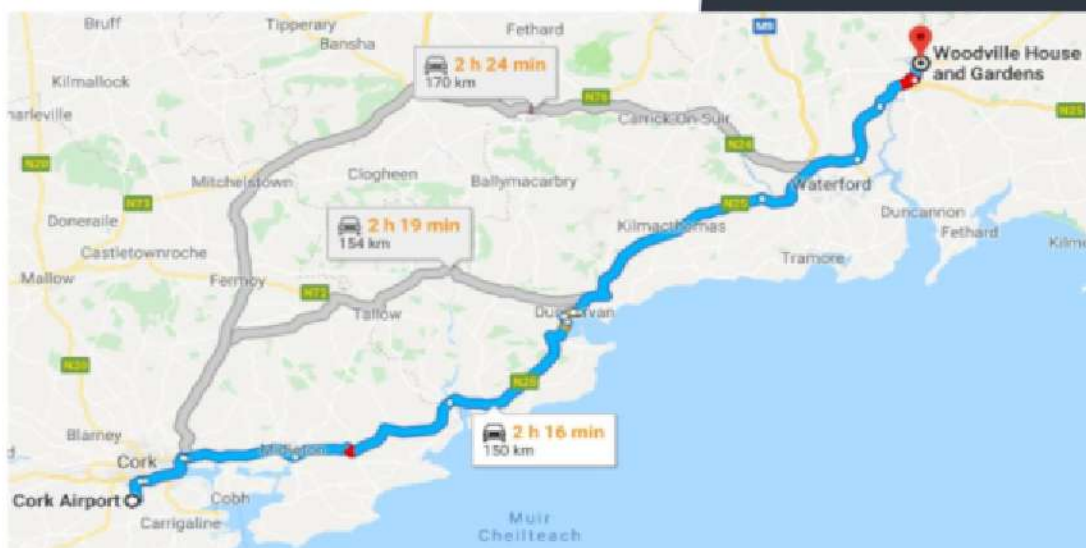
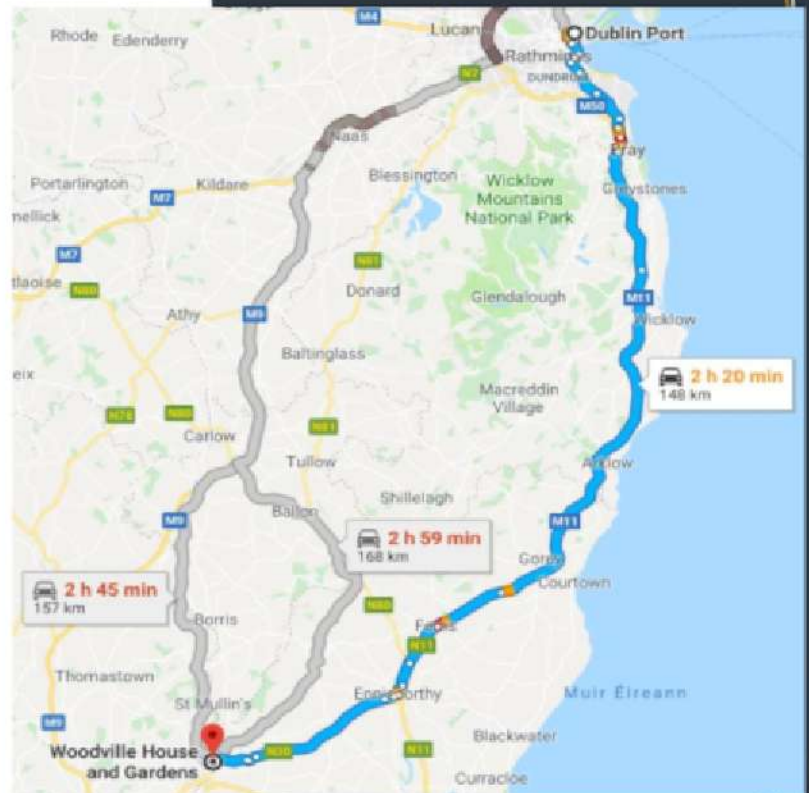
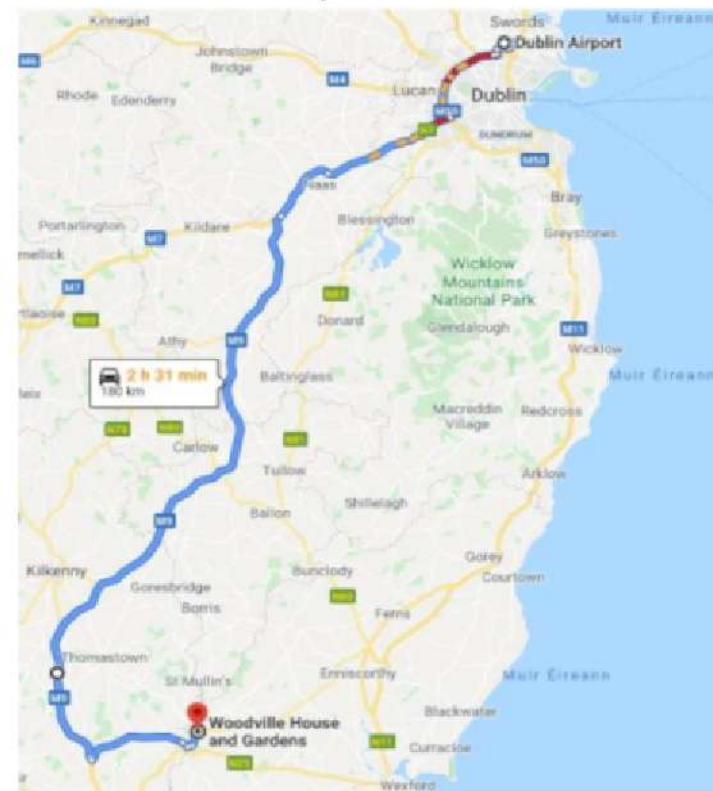
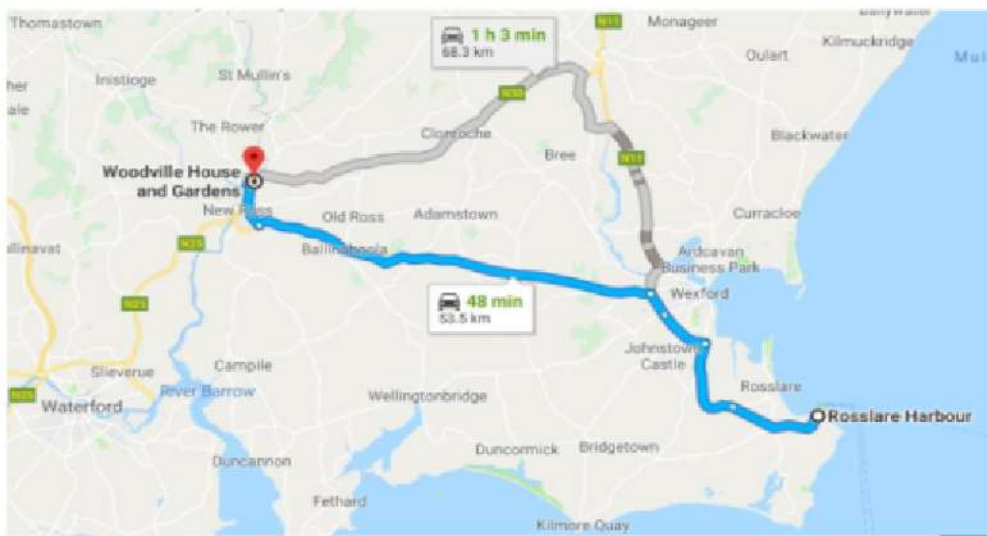
- UKIFAC will be run in accordance with the IFAA Book of Rules in respect of
 - Field and Hunter range lay-out
 - Bow-styles, age divisions and gender groups
 - **Classification dispensation for 2022.** The need for TWO scores from the previous 12 months is waived. All styles, including non-classified styles, must still produce their Classification card at registration.
- Guest archers, individuals who are a member of an IFAA association and in good standing with that association, may enter as guests providing, they meet these preconditions and there are available places in the tournament.
- All shooting groups shall consist of 3 (min) – 6 (max) archers. Juniors may be placed in a mixed-style group if there are insufficient numbers to make a full target group. Cubs shall shoot with a parent or nominated 'shoot guardian' if minders are not provided.
- All event rules, as per the UKIFAC Agreement, are available on the website.

AWARDS

- The title UK & Ireland Champion and a Champion patch will be awarded in every division and style if there are more than two persons in that division.
- Single style/division competitors must shoot a B-class score on average except for Senior, Veteran, Junior and Cub who shall receive the Champion title and patch regardless of the numbers shooting in the division or score achieved.
- Class awards will be awarded for the winners of 'B' and 'C' classes only.
- Team entries will be submitted by the national rep. of each association. Entries must be in writing, with the appropriate fee set by the host, prior to the start of Day 1. The styles required for National Team will align with those in the UKIFAC Agreement.

directions ports and airports

*easy access using primary routes
from Rosslare, Dublin and Cork*





SIFA CHAMPIONSHIPS LIMERICK 2022

July 29th to August 1st

Bookings : limerickarchery@gmail.com



LIMERICK FIELD ARCHERY CLUB WELCOMES ALL TO OUR CLUB AS WE HOST THE SIFA CHAMPIONSHIPS

We are doing it a bit differently this year in LFAC where by we are putting on a 4 day event for all to enjoy

So what should you expect, our club distillery has been busy making signature brews with some very fimilar names to go with them from IAC cider to blackcastle stout and many more to enjoy. .

There will be a BBQ on both Saturday and Sunday with our very own venison, and other delicious items.

We will have a few different archery suppliers setting up stalls with lots of goodies available.

Come and enjoy a weekend of Archery in the sunny South West at the home of archery in Limerick city & county.

This competition is open to all other Archery associations with vaild membership cards their will be separate awards for these Archers



Details of the championships

Adult €10 Children €5 per day
Full weekend Adult €20 Children €10
Children under 16 shoot for free
Card or Cash Payments taken on the day

Food/drinks Buffet kids €5 Adult's €10 per day
Refreshments & nibbles are free



Day 1 Friday
Fun shoot for those early birds

Day 2 Saturday
SBG 2 X 18 3Ds, UAR 2 X 14 3Ds, Novelty Round, moving targets

Day 3 Sunday
SBG 2 X 18 3Ds, UAR 2 X 14 3Ds, Novelty Round, metal deer

Day 4 Monday
Fun shoot for those that want to make a long weekend of it

Contact Details

Mobile: 087 997 8622

Contact person: James

Email: limerickarchery@gmail.com

Camping available for both tents and campervans bookings required

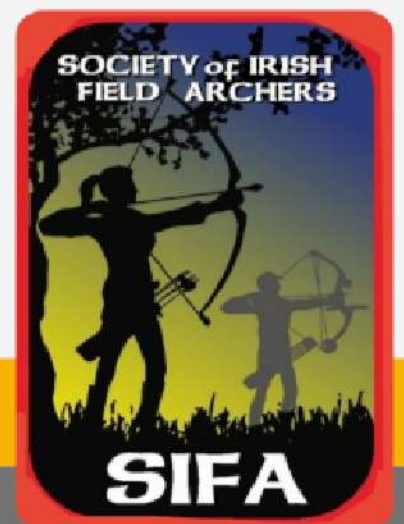
Location

Boarmans Hill ashore murroe Co Limerick
{found on Google maps under club name}



Message from the Club's Committee

Firstly we would like to thank the members for putting in the hard work on getting the club grounds ready for this event we are looking forward to seeing all our friends and soon to be friends coming to the home of archery in Limerick city and county to enjoy the sport we all love





We have an archery school for beginners where we teach a traditional instinctive way of shooting.

Although we promote a traditional style of archery, we are open to any members shooting any recognized IFAF bowstyle.

The guy on the picture it's me, Mattia, I'm an Italian living in Loughrea, I'm the founder of the Club and also the IFAA Coach for our Beginner Courses.

Who we are:

We are a newly setup non profit Field Archery club.

We have a course with 3D targets and a beginners range for our members to use, stretching over 160 acres of forest, located between Loughrea and Gort towns in Co. Galway.



We think our Club as a group of friends who share the same passion, we organize many social activities and we encourage members to volunteer in the Club's activities.

Fancy an exciting outdoor activity??
Join us!

If you are new to Field Archery, have a look at the Beginner Corner section of our website <https://lrta21.square.site>

If you are already an archer and want to become a member, check the section of the website on How to join us.

Contact: lrtradarchery@gmail.com



**AUGUST
5TH TO 13TH
2022
TAHKURANNA
ESTONIA**





**WORDS
HAVE THE
POWER
TO MAKE
THINGS HAPPEN**



The Irish Field Archery Monthly is a magazine published by Malgorzata Malek TIFAM
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**THE IRISH
FIELD
ARCHERY**
Monthly